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CARDOZO'S DAZZLING OLYMPIC HAT-TRICK

ablo Cardozo's hat-trick in Wollongong on the weekend confirmed what many thought. The Sydney Olympic striker has lost none of his goalscoring capacity and, in a team that looks more settled than last year, he may well be a part of a finals campaign this season.

Plus, as Cardozo tells **Roger Sleeman** in this issue, he hopes that his continuing goalscoring exploits will not go unnoticed by new Socceroo coach Frank Farina in the lead-up to the Brazil series next month.

There is nothing Cardozo wants more than to play for Australia, and with his Argentine heritage he would love a crack at the Brazilians here in front of his own fans.

These are exciting times for Cardozo - Sydney Olympic are bringing out legendary former Liverpool and Juventus striker lan Rush for a brief guest spell in November.

Rush, Cardozo and Arambasic? Quite a strikeforce!

Olympic is unbeaten with seven points from a possible nine after last weekend's matches.

Round three of the NSL was significant for a number of reasons. First, the round was preceded by the announcement that one of our greatest ever imported players, Adelaide Force and LG Socceroo sweeper Milan Ivanovic, has decided to retire.

In typical fashion he chose to go out quickly and gracefully. By all accounts the standing ovation he received prior to kick-off at Hindmarsh Stadium (he didn't play) on Friday night was what you would expect from the adoring Adelaide gallery.

Ivanovic, 38, may well go down as the finest import player of the decade. And many still say that if he played against Iran in both World Cup qualifier games - as was suggested in Robbie Slater's autobiography - his legacy of achievements might have been even greater. He certainly would not have looked out of place at France 98. Our tribute to 'The Doctor' is on page six and we hope the modest Ivanovic will allow us an interview for next week's issue?

The round was also significant because Auckland's Kingz won their first game in our NSL - against the current back-to-back champions South Melbourne, none the less.

The party in the President's lounge at the North Harbour Stadium lasted well into the night, according to one of our New Zealand friends Grant Stantiall, yet South Melbourne didn't hang around.

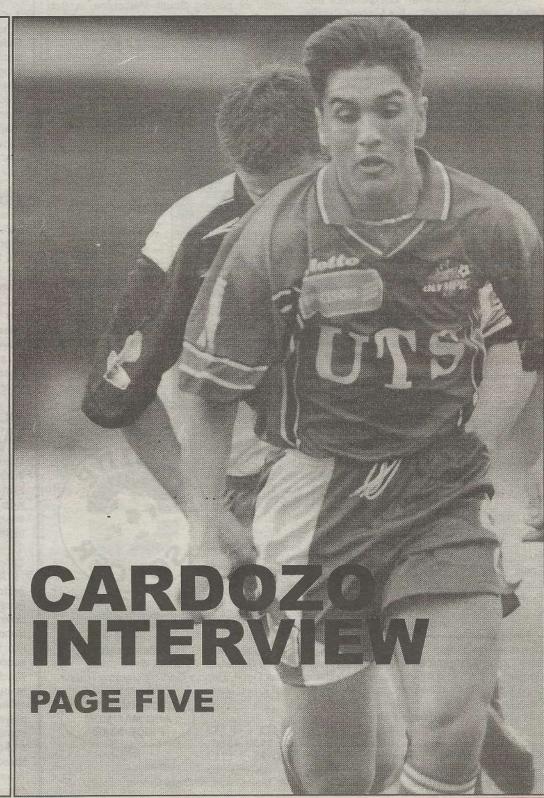
They jumped into the bus and went back to their accommodation at the Poenamo Hotel on the North Shore much to the irritation of a couple of South fans wanting to catch up with the team.

Did the news that South is in with Manchester United, among others, for the group games of the World Club Championships in January 2000 have a bearing on the result?

After slamming a few other things last week South coach Postecoglou said his team "got what they deserved," after an Aaron Silva goal separated the two sides.

As Jeremy Ruane in his match report on page 13 says 'Every cloud has a Silva lining!'

Continued on page six



PLUS: EVERY NSL GAME COVERED IN-DEPTH, SUPERFANS AND GREG BLAKE WITH BRAD MALONEY.
INSIDE SOCCER: YOUR QUALITY WEEKLY DEVOTED TO AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

"Hendo"

Inside Soccer is proud to present a weekly column from one of our best keepers, and a real NSL personality, Spirit custodian Paul 'Hendo' Henderson

learned a very valuable lesson when we played South Melbourne at Bob Jane Stadium recently when we went down 2-0.

I went through the whole game without having to extend myself and make any significant saves. The only work I had to do was pick the ball out of the back of the net, twice, and that was the difference between the two sides.

South Melbourne is a class act and they have won the league twice in a row and that is because they always take advantage of their

Whether that is in attack, defence or in the midfield, they always seem to push the right buttons and take advantage of opportunities presented to them.

That doesn't necessarily mean just shots on goal, it is everything, from opposition mistakes to the other team's tactics.

They see a chance and take it.

I think it comes down to experience and being in a winning position but Michael Curcija only had two shots and he scored two goals.

Good luck to them.

That is why they are the defending cham-



For me, there wasn't much I could do about either goal but it still hurts every time you have to turn around and pick the ball out of the back of the net.

It didn't happen too much last year and I am hoping that trend continues throughout this

South Melbourne is also the master of playing well at home. It is something that is important for teams if they want to make an impression in the NSL.

South Melbourne has not been beaten at home for two years and it is no coincidence that they have won the league for those two

If there is something I have learned since making my debut in the NSL it is to learn from your mistakes and experiences and the experience of playing South Melbourne at Bob Jane Stadium has definitely been stored in my memory bank.

S-NEWS

SOCCER'S AUSTRALIAN NEWS AND GOSS

JOE'S DINKY-DI SOCCEROO?

ur spies in Germany (!) tell us that Joe Simunic has told Frank Farina that he does want to play for Australia. Well, why didn't you say that in the first place Joe!

BIG AD CAMPAIGN

wo Sydney clubs, Spirit and Marconi, are now advertising with the major dailies in Sydney, the Herald and Telegraph respectively.

SHOCKING NIGHT OUT

Cally Orpin, one of Carlton's most Odevout fans had a shocker. The Blues' opening home game was eagerly anticipated. She could barely concentrate at work that day. As things turned out her team played "crap" (her words), only a small crowd turned up to the game, she was threatened with legal action when trying to sell her fanzine and, when she arrived home, she found out she had been burgled. It was just one of those nights.

WYNTON RUFER? HE'S BIG IN NEW ZEALAND

Kingz player coach and all-round New Zealand legend Wynton Rufer is big in Kiwi land. In fact, according to the Kingz match day program for the Carlton game, he is 1810cm high! That makes him around the 60ft mark. Oh, and Dino Mennillo's nickname is 'Liza' or 'Barry' while Robbie Middleby is known as 'Chooky' and Stuart Riddle (can you guess?) is 'The Riddler'.

HOT OFF THE PRESS

s this some fiendish plot to take over Australia with 'Glorymania'? Now that Perth Glory has practically taken over Perth, noticeboards all over Australia will soon see 'Hot off the Press', a Glory newssheet faxed off to media and business every Monday with all the latest Glory news etc. In its opening welcome it says 'we encourage you to pin up the release on the staff pin up board or leave it in an area highly accessible to as many of your employees as possible.' Smart people. Go the Glory!

5,000 PLUS FOR **ILLAWARRA GRAND FINAL**

Well done to all at Illawarra Soccer Association. Their Premier League Grand Final drew 5,500 fans. Northern United played Port Kembla at Brandon Park. Port won 1-0 in a tight final that was enjoyed by all. The annual awards night is on Saturday Oct 23.

VANESSA AMOROSI

een singing sensation and Aria Award nominee Vanessa Amorosi performed before the Spirit v Breakers game last Friday night. The diminuitive singer said later to Inside Soccer (no we weren't hanging about like some groupie!) that she loved soccer. "When I was in Hong Kong I watched it all the time on cable. My favourite team is a South African side called The Indians and my favourite player is Glenn, but I don't know his surname!" Her single is called 'Have a Lbok'. Speaking of teen sensations, Newcastle Breakers keeper Peter Wood has been selected in the AIS squad for the next 12 months. The 16-year-old comes from Maitland and is also signed with the Breakers till June 2002. He is a NNSW U/16 representative.

BETTER GET A LAWYER

Sydney United has announced that they are suing former coach Dave Mitchell for breach of contract to the amount of \$750,000. The legal action is based on United's view that Mitchell encouraged his players not renew their contracts with the Pumas and instead sign with Parramatta. Marco Franovic, President of Sydney United, did not return the messages S-news left him.

AUSSIE 'NO-HOPERS' SAYS THE MIRROR

Don't you just love the English tabloids. In an effort to highlight the difference between Man Utd and South Melb.(most clubs can't stack up to the Red Devils anyway) the Mirror ran this vacuous bit of patronising editorial. 'Manchester United have given up on the FA Cup to take on Aussie no-hopers South Melbourne - who are ranked No 236 in the world. The folly of United's Cup boycott was exposed last night at the draw for the inaugural World Club Championship in Brazil. Sir Alex Ferguson's side will play Mexico's Necaxa, Brazilian champs Vasco da Gama and South Melbourne, whose annual wage bill is less than pounds 500,000. The Aussies are 150-1 outsiders to win the tournament in January. The gulf between United and the Oceanic champions is underlined by their commercial operations. Where United are now a worldwide institution with an annual turnover of 87million, South Melbourne sell just 200 replica shirts a season. While United's top earners like David Beckham and Ryan Giggs are on 25,000 pounds a week, the Aussies' star man is Paul Trimboli, who has to combine football with his day job as an accountant' And people wonder why we want a Republic. And by the way, Man Utd just spent millions on a certain Aussie keeper, but of course that was not mentioned.

HAPPY DAYS AT HINDMARSH

ooks like the crowds could be returning to Hindmarsh after last season's debacle. On the night when 45,000 saw the International Rules game at Football Park, an estimated 7,000 saw Force beat Power. There were drummers and singers in the southern singing 'Ole, ole, ole, ole', and 'Here we go, here we go, here we go', and clapping, which caught on in the main stand. People were actually starting to enjoy themselves! And new signing Rodrigue's looks to be a crowd favourite with his Brazilian skills. Good sign for the future. Keep up the good work.

CLUB 74 SAYS THANKS

We received this lovely letter from Rale Rasic .. 'Dear Aidan, Thanks a million for your support towards the late Jimmy Mackay's testimonial dinner. This support has been very much appreciated by the members of the Club 74 and the Mackay family. You personally have shown a great deal of interest and respect towards the team that has set the record that will take Australia into the new millennium, a result which culminated in one of the most memorable successes in Australian sport. I, and the other members of the Club 74, wish to take this opportunity to say one big thank you for your friendship and sincere love and respect towards this unique occasion.' It was a pleasure.

The face of the Republic

n a great honour for Australian Soccer, national coach and Socceroo legend will be announced as one of a number of faces that will represent the Republic Yes campaign in the lead up to the historic vote on our Constitution on Nov 6.

Inside Soccer has it on good authority that Farina, along with about 100 other prominent Australians from a



wide variety of backgrounds, will feature as part of the campaign for the 'Yes'

Whatever side of the debate you are on, this is something special for our sport. Congratulations to Frank Farina on being chosen.

INSIDE SOCCER

1/24 Prince William Drive, Seven Hills NSW 2147

PHONE: FAX:

(02) 9838 4888 (02) 9838 4791

MANAGING EDITOR: JOHN VRTARIC Email: johnv@insidesoccer.com.au AIDAN ORMOND E-mail: editor@insidesoccer.com.au Correspondents: Melbourne - Greg Blake

Sydney - Richard Sleeman

CONTRIBUTORS: Alan Clark, Mark Fisher, Kevin Christopher, Ben Cubby, Melissa Muscat, Sally Orpin, Margaret Bowden, Steven Webb, Donald Campbell, Paul Goodwin, Chris-Dunkerley, Cameron Atfield, Luciano Viggiano, Dylan Durie, Dennis Gedling, Jeremy Ruane, Chris Conti, Richard Beazley, Jack Warner, Michael Kmet, Mark RECOMMENDED

Advertising: Sydney: John Vrtaric

(02) 9838 4888 or 0412 698 185 Roger Sleeman (02) 9838 4888

Melbourne: Greg Blake (03) 9370 1217

Allsport, Joe Palos, Brett Kluznik, Matt Curtis, Michael Cronin Photography:

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BRAD MALONEY: MR PASSION

By Greg Blake

"he contrasts aren't even subtle. Paul Trimboli plays the game like it doesn't matter and Brad 'Bugsy' Maloney plays it like does.

Trimboli, a dual Warren Medalist for Players' Player of the Year, carries an onfield nonchalence possesed only by a precious few gifted individuals.

A 'natural', uncloistered by the bounds of orthodoxy, Maloney, the Warren Medalist in 1998/99, is everyman.

He worked hard to get noticed, worked harder to become great and now 'Bugsy' has to up the bar again to maintain his new found status as a bona fide NSL

By his own admission Maloney's greatest strength is his passion for playing the game.

That's not to say Trimboli is bereft of it; it's just that 'Trimmers' makes the game look so easy that you could imagine the South Melbourne skipper still able to find the right options in his sleep.

Maloney needs the passion to play. It's his training and playing fuel.

"Passion mate, that's what keeps me going," admitted the 27-year-old Marconi skipper.

"It's nice to earn a bit of a living out of the game and the more players can earn

"But for me personally, if I didn't have that passion to play I'd be useless."

In a league often accused of being

bereft of real history and sincere passion even Maloney's footballing ideals strike a chord with those of us who still maintain an indomitable belief in the local product.

To some it's a feeder competition to the world; to others a springboard to a lucrative overseas contract; for some just an easy earner.

"Too many players are just getting around to get a bit of money in their back pocket and that sort of attitude takes the passion out of the game," he believes.

"Mate, I'm here because I want to win it (the NSL championship).

"I'd love to do it.

"As far as I am concerned the ultimate for any footballer at the end of the day is to win the competition that they play

While not a self-apologist, Maloney clearly still struggles with the new-found recognition and status that comes with Warren Medal territory.

'Bugsy' continually pays homage to the peers of his youth whom, he says "carried him through" the early years at Apia, Newcastle, Sydney Olympic and Marconi.

"Legends of the game," he calls them, whilst struggling to acknowledge that he himself is now probably inspiration of a clutch of talented younger guns at

"I had guys like Andy Harper, Gary Van Egmond, Bobby Catlin and JP (Jean-Paul de Marigny) helping me through the ranks," he explained.

Continued on page 17



Stallions skipper Brad Maloney: "Passion mate, that is what keeps me going.



- *Gates open at 5pm
- *5.30 youth game
- * NSL match 7.30pm

*Loads of fun activities and chances for all kids dressed in Power colours to win some great prizes.

* Fireworks display



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Parramatta Power Soccer Club is proudly sponsored by

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For fans there is a free shuttle bus from Parramatta Station starting at 5.30pm

Farina's legend continues with Alex Petrou



St Augustine's College in Queensland is a pretty special school. Not only did its team, the Saints, have a remarkably successful run in the tri-state 500 team school soccer competition the Bill Turner Cup, but its player Alex Petrou won the player of the tournament.

And another claim to fame is that it is the school of none other than Mr Frank

The Saints' run in the Cup was electrifying, they scored 27 goals and only conceded three.

After being knocked out in the semis in Newcastle they rebounded strongly to win third place with a good 4-1 victory over the strong Pennant Hills side.

Given the amount of travel the Queenslanders had to do to get to Newcastle, this was a fine achievement for both player and team.

Next week we hope to speak with Alex Petrou about his team's fantastic run.

readers' forum

This is what I think the NSL should look like next year with two divisions.

DIVISION ONE

- 1 Adelaide United
- 2 Auckland Kings
- 3 Carlton
- 4 Marconi
- 5 Newcastle Breakers 6 Northern Spirit
- 7 Parramatta Power
- 8 Perth Glory
- 9 South Melbourne 10 Wollongong Wolves

DIVISION TWO

- 1 Adelaide Force
- 2 Brisbane Strikers
- 3 Canberra Cosmos
- 4 Gippsland Falcons 5 Hobart
- 6 Fremantle
- 7 Melbourne Knights
- 8 North Queensland
- 9 Sydney Olympic
- 10Sydney United

Follows the Scottish model where everyone plays each other 4 times. The last placed team in D1 is replaced the winner of D2. The 2nd and 3rd team in D2 place each other over two legs, with the winner playing the 9th team in D1 with the winner gaining or retaining D1 status.

Division One Play-offs

The top four teams make the finals. With the 1st team playing the 4th and the 3rd playing the 2nd over two legs with the winners playing each over.

The final is two be played in the city of the team which finished highest in the regular season.

Up for the Cup

Along with the new second division a "decent" cup competition should come a long with it. In this case the bottom 8 division 2 clubs play each other.

Which are meet by the D1 clubs in round two. Random draws are to be made before every round, following the F.A. Cup tradition

The Cup should be played during the

season and not be a micky mouse pre-season comp. The final should be played near the end of the season and a weekend should be set aside for the final. The winner can play the league winner at the start of the next year (as in England).

In this model all the current clubs remain as well as introducing four new clubs, Adelaide United, Fremantle, North Queensland and Hobart.

Allowing both divisons to have clubs in all areas of Australia (until they go down or get promoted). The teams named above may not be the right ones but the ones which I feel would make the best Division one competition.

You can also have two leagues of 12 clubs with the introduction of clubs from Christchurch, Cronulla, Townsville and Waverley or Geelong.

All new clubs would be new clubs and not current state league clubs financed from private capital. Soccer Australia can offer licences in the areas which they wish to introduce new clubs and any firm with the capital can come in and start the club.

Current state league clubs shouldn't be allowed in the new second division because many of the clubs who are the front runners in being part of the second division are already next two NSL clubs like Green Gully (next to Knights Park).

In the case of Bulleen who have the money they don't have a ground fit for the league and little support. If they moved they would have to share with another NSL club and once again you would two clubs in the same place.

By reducing the current league and add a few new clubs you have a good second division with clubs which can sustain themselves in are run in a professional way.

If this format is used it will allow for football to be played for over 40 weeks given everyone something to play for. If Soccer Australia is really looking at having a second division then this is the best format (in my opinion), because if state league clubs are used they will never survive in Division One if they are promoted.

Lukasz Rabenda

GREG BLAKE



C7 SOCCER COMMENTATOR



t must be said that anyone who is fair dinkum about soccer in Victoria should be hoping and praying that the Carlton experiment will eventually work.

To some extent it already has; on field the club has already made a grand final and Carlton also boasts probably the most expansive and potentially bountiful junior network in the state.

Off-field the club has attracted a remarkably strong sponsorship network and a clutch of influential ownership investors who clearly see the potential in the venture.

The game, already staggering at NSL level in Melbourne, cannot afford to have Carlton crash and burn.

On top of the debacle which was Collingwood Warriors - the stench of that farce still lingers today - the game's credibility might never completely

And despite Melbourne clubs having dominated the NSL championship for the past six years the collapse of Carlton would erode the city's NSL representation down to an all-time low of just two clubs.

Not nearly enough to maintain the regular interest of an apparently dwindling soccer support-base, nor to allow the still significant number of younger players coming through the VIS and local feeder leagues the opportunity to strut their stuff in our shop window competition.

Carlton general manager, Lou Sticca, isn't always the most popular bloke in the game, and I've certainly had my share of verbal stoushes with

But there are few people I admire more for his passion for his club or his tenacity and dedication in getting the Carlton experiment off the ground in the first place.

And to keep it going.

He's toughed it out. He's stuck to it. Lou is giving it his best shot. At the moment-I suspect he is in seige mode.

He launched into one media smarty on the night of the Gippsland game and has since been on the public offensive following real or implied criticism from several quarters.

To be honest, this time I don't blame him for getting a bit tetchy. It seems decidedly unfair to be sticking boots into Carlton when Sticca and the club appear to be having a red-hot go.

For a club which has tried its fair share of gimmicks to grab a market share over the past two years, I reckon Cariton did just about everything right in trying to promote its season home opener against Gippsland.

And that includes the beer garden concept, which apparently drew its share of outside criticism, but by all accounts was enjoyed enormously by the people who actually count, the punters.

Unfortunately for Sticca and Carlton the slick advertising campaign, the beer garden, the fireworks, Debbie Byrne's national anthem, the shift to Friday nights and Olympic Park and the recruiting of the already legendary 'Brit Pack' all came to just about nought.

On the night they said 3,105 and

the league revised the figure by Monday to 4,105.

Either way it was about the same throught the turnstiles as has watched all the previous Carlton versus Gippsland figures, a sort of box-office scoreless draw.

But no reason at all for the other Melbourne clubs and supporters to rejoice.

Just have a look at the revitalised nature of the game in Sydney following the huge success of Northern Spirit.

It raises the bar for everyone and we Melburnians should be hoping like hell that Carlton can in some way emulate Spirit and Perth Glory.

We all want and need more Spirittype success stories, but perhaps Carlton - and possibly newcomers Parramatta Power as well - might have to re-evaluate soccer's box-office potential completely.

One personally irksome issue which is continually raised when crowds aren't turning out in numbers in Melbourne is the supposed effect live television coverage has on gate-takings. Lou Sticca and South Melbourne boss George Vasilopoulos have both been guilty of slamming the effect of live TV coverage in recent times, despite several factors which suggest that there is little or no correlation between the two.

For example, South Melbourne's best home gate of last season was at home to Carlton; a match that was televised live free-to-air on ABC.

The table (on page 18) is a mere random sample of figures for matches played in Victoria over the past three seasons, but reflective of a leaguewide trend that emphatically suggest, that live television has no tangible effect on box-office.

Live coverage of games is an invaluable promotional tool and exhaustive and well-documented studies in Britain and the United States have established beyond doubt that even saturation coverage of live sport only serves to enhance the profile, marketablity and box office potential of the

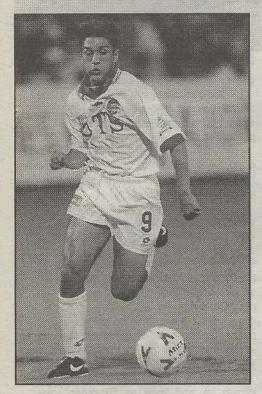
At most, it can influence a mere five percent of 'floating' supporters, all of whom fall into the same category of supporters who also don't attend because of poor weather, poor quality of games or who are equally devoted to other recreational activities.

That is to say, if the television/radio product is good enough, these floating supporters will actually be enticed to games.

For goodness sakes, other organisations are desperately crying out for live TV coverage. And you won't hear AFL, NRL or even Perth Glory whingeing about live TV, because they are already doing their jobs properly. My concern is that for as long as clubs are looking at the wrong reasons for not succeeding, it'll take 'em that much longer to assess and address the real

PABLO CARDOZO

SYDNEY OLYMPIC'S



Three months might not seem a long time in football but for Pablo Cardozo, the Argentine-born Sydney Olympic striker, the period from June to September before the start of last season was like an eternity.

When Cardozo returned to Sydney from Austria at the end of the 1997/98 European season he was without a club, until a chance meeting took place on the street. He was approached by respected Sydney Olympic youth coach, Peter Papanikitas, to train with their club for the 1998/1999 season.

Eighteen goals later, Branko Culina knew he had chosen the right man for the job, despite the fact the club was just pipped at the post for a finals berth by Adelaide Force.

It was ironic that the club which had discarded Cardozo at the end of 1993 was now praising him as their favourite son.

Despite his success last season, no mention has been made of Cardozo in Socceroo selections, even though they rarely looked like scoring against a weakened Manchester United.

In this frank interview with Roger Sleeman, Pablo Cardozo discusses his life in football and his undying desire to wear the green and gold.

ROGER SLEEMAN: Can you describe the spirit of the Argentine foot-baller?

PABLO CARDOZO: It's a love of football that is in your blood and nurtured as soon as you can stand up and kick a ball. It's a passion handed down through generations and in my case it came from my mother who was a River Plate devotee and my father who supported Penarol in Uruquay.

R.S. Although you graduated through the youth ranks at Sydney Olympic, why is it you never received recognition at representative level?

P.C. Perhaps it was something to do with my individual flair, that coaches wanted team players who would blend into a tactical plan rather than players who were individually creative.

It's typical of the modern game where skill isn't encouraged because only results seem to count. Just look round the NSL

GOLDEN STRIKER

today; how many players have the skill of Odzakov, Biskic, Milosevic and Mendez?

R.S. Do you believe this was the main reason Bertie Mariani released you from Olympic to West Adelaide at the end of 1993?

P.C. To be fair, Mariani did have Seal, Arambasic and Saad as strikers at the time but I would've been happy to occupy an attacking midfield role if given more of a chance. To be truthful I was scoring a lot of goals in the youth team but at the age of twenty I was disillusioned, learning nothing and not making any progress.

Fortunately Peter Katholos, who was the youth team coach, understood my predicament and spoke to Raul Blanco at West Adelaide about giving me a trial.

R.S. Do you think Blanco gave you the chance because of the Argentine connection?

P.C. Blanco does promote skilful football but whether the players are Latin, Australian or European doesn't influence

his selection. It just happened that he needed an additional striker and by scoring seven goals in 12 appearances in that first season I vindicated the signing.

R.S. You certainly proved a lot of experts wrong with your performances over the

years at West Adelaide. Do you harbor any bitterness over your treatment by certain coaches at Olympic?

P.C. My record does speak for itself as I scored nearly 60 goals for the club until I moved to Austria in January 1998.

I suppose there was a degree of resentment early on but I did enjoy my football in Adelaide and the publicity the game receives is much greater than in Sydney.

As for those people you're referring to, their demise from the game may explain all

R.S. It has been suggested you had a difference of opinion with Raul Blanco a few years ago and that is the real reason you haven't been considered for Socceroo selection.

P.C. I do recall-having a minor disagreement but I'd hate to think this would in any way affect Blanco's judgment of my performances. At any rate Frank Farina and Graham Arnold are the men I really have to impress now and I'm really looking forward to our match against Northern Spirit at the end of this month.

R.S. Do you think your experience at Rapid Vienna was worthwhile?

P.C. It gave me a taste of overseas football but that's as far as it goes. I was played as a central midfielder and a large part of my role was to track players into our defensive third.

The Austrian game is very similar to the German style where there's a great emphasis on releasing the ball early in one touch situations, as well as physical contact.

This style of play is not my game, as it doesn't allow you any time on the ball to create the unexpected. When I went to the club I had a pedigree as a proven goalscorer but wasn't given the chance to show it.

After we were defeated 5-0 by

F.K.Austria, the coach was sacked and the new man at the helm preferred to play Eastern Bloc players, rather than the other foreigners, so I only made limited sub appearances until the end of the season.

R.S. What was the key to your success last season and can you explain why you

weren't considered for a Socceroo squad place?

P.C. I suppose my Austrian experience had matured me but I was playing in a very good Olympic side, which really should've gone further in last years's championship.

More importantly, I was given a free role by Branko Culina to score goals however possible, rather than having to attend to defensive duties as well. Then again I shouldn't have surprised anyone because I'd achieved 15-goal hauls twice with West

Brett Emerton, who will be mainly used wide on the right where he's most effective, should have a hig season and don't forget the guest appearances of lan Rush will certainly inspire the team to great heights.

Pable Cardozo

Adelaide

You would think an 18-goal season would interest the national team selectors but only they would know why I wasn't considered for at least a squad place against Man Utd.

Yet I wasn't the only player who was overlooked. Look at Brad Maloney, who has been the outstanding player in the



Pablo Cardozo on Socceroo selection: "All I can do is score some goals ... and perhaps I may be lucky."

N.S.L for the past two seasons, and has received only one call-up (against N.Z. in the Confederations Cup.)

R.S Do you believe you deserve to be chosen in the squad for the Brazil series?

P.C. It would be great to be considered but with the overseas players Viduka, Kewell and Aloisi playing it's going to be fairly hard for many locally-based strikers to make the squad. All I can do is score some goals in the next few matches and perhaps I may be lucky.

R.S. How do you feel Olympic will perform this season?

P.C. There's no doubting we'll feel the loss of Jason Culina, Durakovic and Blagojevic but we have a strong squad boosted by the signing of Chi-Chi Mendez who, when fit, can be a more than capable replacement for Culina.

Brett Emerton, who will be mainly used wide on the right where he's most effective, should have a big season and don't forget the guest appearances of lan Rush will certainly inspire the team to great heights.

I'm sure we can command a finals place this season and we owe it to the fans to achieve a better result than last season.

And after last weekend's great 4-0 win in Wollongong, where I was fortunate enough to score a hat-trick, well who knows what we are capable of.





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NSLROUNDTHREE

QUOTES OF THE WEEK: "I've told the players not to dribble inside the penalty box area, because we can't afford to keep giving away penalties!!" Wynton Rufer on the Kingz' unusual dilemma

"We must build on our steady start to the season and we must win, win, always win!!" Bernd Stange beating around the bush.

Milan, you were special

ound three of NSL 99/2000 will go down in history. It was the round NSL and national team figure Milan Ivanovic of Adelaide Force (formerly Adelaide City) told us it was over. Over the past few days all the tributes have flown in and, in our humble way, we would like to add to them courtesy of a fan in Adelaide.

Ode to Milan Ivanovic

'The Man from Red Star Belgrade'
He came from Red Star Belgrade
With humility and a pair of boots
To ply his trade in Adelaide

No English, no airs, no graces His talent did the talking Brought smiles to many faces Brought joy and class into the game. Ivanovic is his name.

Ten years he wore the black and white Then green and yellow too Three hundred and one for Adelaide And never a single 'boo'. "Ivanovic gets the ball at the back He dodges one, he dodges two, He's laid it off for Mori

The striker follows through
GOAL!!! It's a goal for City!
What a play, what a man
Where would they be without Milan?"

And now his talent's silent
But only at two levels
The NSL and worldwide scenes
Will lull by several decibels.
No longer will the fans rise up
When the maestro gets the ball
And roar in anticipation
"Go up and score a goal!"

The favourite son of all who know The finest in the game Fear their soccer outings Will never be the same Without the man from Red Star The man who rose to fame The star they came to worship Ivanovic is his name.

What more can we say except Milan, you won't be forgotten as a player, and we all wish you the best in your coaching career in South Australia.

NSL TOP SCORERS BABIC SEAN BOUTSIANIS CON CARDOZO PABLO MARTH ANDREW



Perth Glory Sydney Olympic Carlton

Marconi Stallions



CROWD COMPARISON: Last season after round 3: 137,105, this year 133,334 Round 3 this year: 42,973, Round 3 last year: 32,876

Round three in review

Continued from front page

Levent Osman, Kingz sweeper who was moved into a midfield role with the home side's move to a 4-4-2 was naturally delighted when we he contacted Inside Soccer last night. 'Well it took three weeks but it was well worth the wait. To beat the champions and outplay them was just perfect, and for the first time in my soccer career to beat South Melbourne.

'I think they thought they were going to come here and hammer us. But weren't they in for a shock it was the other way around! I think this result could be the turning point for our team. I think at home from know on we will not let anyone come here and thrash us, I think will be very hard to beat at home,' concluded an ebullient 'Ossie'.

The other noteworthy result of an invigorating round of matches was Newcastle Breakers' 2-0 win at Northern Spirit. Given Newcastle's recent form (they are unbeaten) some would say this wasn't such a surprise after all - nevertheless this is a side that has shrugged off an ordinary pre-season to continue where they left off from last year when they finished two wins out of the six.

It was a performance full of grit and determination - this we know they have in spades - but with also a touch of genuine skill. Andy Harper's inclusion in the side has been a masterstroke and Greg Owens is a star of the future.

Coach Lee Sterrey felt the surface at North Sydney did not suit his side. "It was a fantastic result nevertheless," said Sterrey.

Spirit coach, like his counterpart at South, blasted his players for a lack of commitment, even questioning their sexuality! He added that he would lace up the boots again if he had to.

For the almost 13,000 fans there on Friday night, it was last season all over again. The players must now be true to their name and show some genuine spirit

Page 7: SPIRIT V BREAKERS by Mark Fowler
Page 8: COSMOS V STRIKERS by Dylan Durie
Page 9: FORCE V POWER By Margaret
Bowden/Donald Campbell
Page 10: WOLVES V OLYMPIC by John Vrtanic
Page 11: MARCONI V CARLTON by
Paul Goodwin
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Page 13: KINGZ V SOUTH by Jeremy Ruane
Page 14: FALCONS V SYDNEY UNITED

by Luciano Viggiano Page 15: NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

(Home) (Away) (Overall) A PTS GD W A D L D D L 3 BRISBANE STRIKERS 3 0 0 1 9 0 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0 PERTH GLORY 2 NEWCASTLE BREAKERS 3 PARRAMATTA POWER 3 3 0 Sydney United 2 5 Wollongong Wolves 3 Canberra Cosmos South Melbourne 2 2 Northern Spirit 0 Adelaide Force 3 6 2 5 3 -3 O Football Kingz 0 Gippsland Falcons 3 0 0 8 Marconi Stallions 3 0 Melbourne Knights

this week in their difficult game away to Brisbane, a side currently sitting on top of the ladder with three wins from three games.

Marconi Stallions' first home game of the season had all the hoopla you'd expect from a club with a new and pricey marketing plan.

Sadly the players didn't grasp the opportunity to impress some of their new fans with an insipid display against the marauding Carlton.

But as Paul Goodwin reports, the only light point on a dark day for Marconi was just before the game when a pig, dressed in team colours, escaped onto the pitch and then repeated attempts by the 'police', to apprehend the villain failed as he slipped through their net, the goal net as it happened.

It took the combined efforts of the police, stewards and security staff to arrest the fastest pig in the west and it took a rugby tackle to do it, sad to say!

Also a lone Carlton supporter, known far and wide as 'Trumper' (real name John McGauran), followed up his visit to New Zealand to see his side win their first of the season by getting behind the Brescia Furniture end and hailing each goal with a burst on his trusty trumpet.

Marconi's previous worst home defeats were also by the same score, 0-4, the most recent being against Fitzroy on 17th June 1979; and in their first ever NSL game which was against Adelaide City on 10th April 1977 (thanks Andrew Howe for that fact).

Looking ahead to this week's round and on Friday night Breakers v Kingz is an interesting one. Both sides have said to us that they are not taking their opposition lightly. Breakers at home will be very difficult for Rufer's Kingz and buoyed by a large crowd Newcastle should be able to win.

Down in Sydney and Power will be hoping for good weather and a big crowd for the visit of Cosmos. Both sides lost last week but Power would have to be favourite on home soil. Further South in Melbourne and the local derby between Carlton and Knights should attract a much larger gallery than Carlton's first game. The Blues are an awesome side and should easily account for Knights.

On Saturday Strikers meet the downcast Spirit; not a good time to meet a quality side and the pride of Spirit will be on the line. Spirit to win.

Sunday sees Glory v Force; without Ivanovic Force will struggle until the new sweeper beds down, Glory is one fire and should add to Force woes. The west Sydney derby between United and Marconi may not attract a big crowd but there is plenty of passion at Edensor Park, while Marconi were embarrassed by their lame effort last week. Marconi to win. South v Gippsland won't be easy for the home side at Lakeside, but Postecoglou's side rarely loses two in a row, yet the burning question remains, can Pablo Cardozo score another brace in the return game against Wollongong at Olympic's home ground Belmore?

Don't bet against it! Olympic to win.

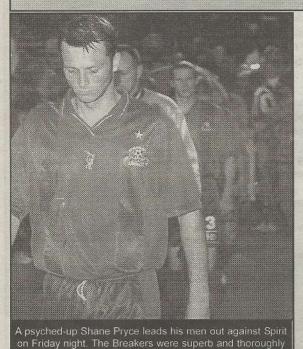
Sterrey's Breakers show Spirit how it's done

NORTHERN SPIRIT 0 NEWCASTLE BREAKERS 2

Owens 14, Juncheiwicz 94

Friday night at North Sydney Oval, Sydney. Crowd 12,733





By Mark Fowler

deserved the three points

Northern Spirit coach Graham Arnold blasted his troops after going down to a shock 2-0 defeat at home to Newcastle Breakers on Friday night.

"Our performance wasn't good enough...our commitment wasn't good enough and I was embarrassed for the supporters.

"Certain players are not pulling their weight and we lack a leader. There's a lack of wanting to do it, and it means if I have to get my boots back on I will."

Arnold was fuming that despite telling his players that Newcastle would try to hit them on the break, both Breakers goals came that way in a clinical away performance.

An early goal and a goal right at the end, along with some solid defending



earned the Breakers the points, and although coach Lee Sterrey nominated goalkeeper Bob Catlin Man of the Match that would indicate Catlin was required to pull off save after save. He wasn't.

He did pull off two superb stops, but the team defended well from the front, with Andy Harper showing the way, and behind him in midfield Mark Wilson and Greg Owens were quicker than their Northern Spirit counter-parts.

The home side started brightly enough, with Paul Bilokapic, who had an unhappy night on the left-hand side of midfield, feeding lan Crook.

Crook put Matthew Langdon away down the left, and his first time cross just eluded David Seal.

Four minutes later Bilokapic again found Langdon, carrying on his fine form from the last two games, but his cross was too high for Slater coming in from the other wing.

On 14 minutes the Breakers took the lead, with Andy Harper threading a ball through for Greg Owens to easily waltz around Paul Henderson to make it 1-0.

The Spirit defenders appealed for offside as they moved forward, but Owens had stayed level with the last defender and the decision correct. Spirit were still performing well at this stage, and after lan Crook put a free kick narrowly over on 29 minutes, Catlin then performed his first superb stop.

A corner whipped in saw Robbie Slater shoot, but David Seal deflected it goalwards only to see Catlin use his large frame to block the ball. A goal at that time may have given the Spirit the confidence to really carry the game on.

A minute later a Newcastle cross was spilled by Paul Henderson, although fortunately not to a Breakers player. Henderson looked more uncomfortable as the game went on, especially from cross-

Another intelligent piece of play from lan Crook, who rarely wasted a pass in the first half, saw a quick free kick find Clayton Zane in the penalty area, and although he turned well the ball stuck under his feet and he was unable to get a proper strike in.

It was Zane's 100th game in the National League, and probably his last for sometime as he heads for the Norwegian side Molde.

 With most of the 12,733 present expecting the home side to come out fired up after the break, it was the visitors who looked sharper and the better side.

Despite that it took Catlin's second save on 52 minutes to prevent Zane - it was a save right out of the top draw.

A header across saw Zane running onto the ball in the six-yard area, and a flying Catlin somehow blocked his header. Coach Arnold was critical of Zane afterwards, saying that both the ball AND goal-keeper should have ended up in the back of the net.

Two minutes later from an almost identical position Zane then saw his header blocked by Andy Roberts, and with that the Sprit seemed to die.

Newcastle were seeing more of the ball now, and their corners and crosses were causing problems for the Spirit - the next chance fell to Newcastle's Todd McManus, only for Mark Rudan to deny him with a great tackle.

By now the Sprit looked devoid of ideas, relying on long balls from midfield towards Zane, and it was no surprise to see Newcastle hit them again on the break with 94 minutes showing on the clock.

It was two substitutes who combined to seal the win, Peter Juchniewicz finding Luke Tomich on the right. Tomich only had 20 minutes on the field and had taken the wrong option each time - this time though he put a nice ball back into



check by Breakers Travis Dodd

the box where Juchniewicz got in front of Jacek Sobczyk and headed the ball into the ground.

It looped up and past the despairing dive of Henderson, although as with the first goal there was nothing he could do. Juchniewicz was booked for an over-zealous celebration by referee Matthew Breeze, who had a fine game with the whistle and was rarely noticed.

Newcastle coach Sterrey was understandably delighted with the result, saying MATCH STATS



NORTHERN SPIRIT: Paul Henderson, Matthew Langdon, Matthew Bingley, Mark Rudan (Simon Catanzaro 79), Robbie Slater, David Seal, Clayton Zane, Troy Cranney, Paul Michael, Cupico, 66), Jacek

Zane, Troy Cranney, Paul Bilokapic (Michael Cunico 66), Jacek Sobczyk, Ian Crook

NEWCASTLE BREAKERS: Bob Catin,



Shane Pryce, Andrew Roberts, Todd McManus, Glenn Sprod, Travis Dodd, Mark Wilson, John Buonavoglia (Peter Juchniewicz), Greg Owens

(Luke Tomich 74), Vasko Trpcevski (Robie Angieski 71), Andy Harper

Yellows: Pryce (N.B.) 39 Mark Rudan (N.S.) 48 Peter Juchniewicz (N.B.) 94

Best Player 3: ANDY HARPER (NB)

2: Mark Wilson (NB)

1: Bob Catlin (NB)

Referee: Matthew Breeze

that he was very happy with the team's performance

-"The possession ratio was probably 80/20 (to Spirit)...but we knew that before the game. If you think you are going to get more possession than Northern Spirit you don't know football, as they are the best possession team in the competition.

"We've played three good teams so far and I don't think people have given us credit for what we have achieved so far. Once we get a lead I think people will find it hard to come back at us."

Newcastle will go into Friday night's game with the Auckland Kingz in fine mood, while there could be a number of changes to the Northern Spirit side that plays Brisbane on Saturday!

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Foster's strike maintains Strikers' 100% record



CANBERRA COSMOS 0 BRISBANE STRIKERS 1

Foster 9

Friday night at Bruce Stadium, Canberra. Crowd 2,804

By Dylan Durie

The Brisbane Strikers extended their perfect start to the NSL season with an injury time winner from Paul Foster giving them the points against Canberra at Bruce Stadium on Friday night

For the second week in a row the Cosmos conceded a late goal when they

27th birthday, showed a rare moment of quality five minutes later when he turned two Brisbane players in midfield and set off for goal. His rasping strike from 25 yards forced goalkeeper Clint Bolton in to a full stretch save.

Nick Meredith then blasted a long range left foot shot for Brisbane, but Grant Barlow returning in goal for Canberra was able to push it over the bar aged to break successfully.

With only one defender to beat, he worked on to his left for the shot and it ballooned well over the goal.

Ten minutes later the introduction of lvo De Jesus had brightened the Cosmos chances of scoring, but he took on too many in the area when he could have taken a shot, the ball eventually falling at the feet of fellow substitute Harry James who pushed it wide.

The two combined again minutes later when De Jesus beat his man down the left touchline and found a good cross that was intercepted before it could reach lames.

The Cosmos were having slightly more of the possession but never looked

MATCH STATS



CANBERRA COSMOS (3-5-2): Barlow, Popovich, Burt. Hooker, Arranz, Gonzalez, Castro (Milin 32), Polak, Musitano (De Jesus 64), Kolpak (James 64), Watkins.



BRISBANE STRIKERS (3-5-2): Bolton, Gwynne. Stafanutto (Bell 75), Davidson, Ditton Pilic, Foster, Dwyer, McClaren, Harris, Meredith. Subs not

used: Langone, Baldwin.

Yellows: Gonzalez 38 (Cosmos)

Best Players:

3 PAUL FOSTER (BRISBANE)

2 Nick Meredith (Brisbane)

1 Robbie Hooker (Canberra)

Referee: Jeremy Blaney



had seemingly done enough to secure a point.

The game itself is best forgotten, the result filed and never spoken of.

Most supporters who attended would be hard pressed to call football 'the beautiful game' ever again.

Both teams were dire, producing only one or two genuine opportunities for the entire game. Glen Kolpak gave an indication of what was to come when his attempted shot on the turn in the third minute resulted only in a fresh air swing after Alex Castro had cleverly played him into the box.

Michael Musitano, celebrating his

with minimum fuss. From the resulting corner Shane Stefanutto worked free at the near post but headed just over.

The rest of the first half was devoid of excitement as both teams struggled with their passing and movement. A half chance fell Brisbane's way in injury time when an errant Cosmos pass out of defence was intercepted on the left and whipped in towards Peter Dwyer who shot wide.

The second half began no better than the first and twelve minutes past before the first shot on goal. Dwyer found himself with space at the top of the Cosmos area after Brisbane had man-

like scoring as the Strikers defended very tightly and hit their opponents on the

Foster should have put Brisbane in front in the 79th minute when he outpaced Robbie Hooker to a through ball. He played it square as he ran in to the Cosmos area, Toppy Popovich intercepted but could only lay it back into the path of Foster who rounded the 'keeper and blasted in to Robbie Hooker who had somehow gotten back to cover the line.

Finally some interest was creeping in to the game as both teams threw men forward to try and win. Jeromy Harris only just failed to reach a deep Brisbane cross

at the far post as he dived to slide it

Then in injury time, just when it seemed the game would reach the inevitable 0-0 conclusion, a long throw found itself to Foster in the Cosmos penalty area and he slammed home with his left foot after beating one man.

In a game where players struggled to excel, Foster was always lively up front for Brisbane while Hooker was again very solid for the Cosmos.

The midfields of both teams were unable to supply quality ball to their forwards, which in the end created the scrappy game.

Cosmos coach Tom Sermanni says his team has bigger problems than conceding another late goal to lose at home. "The most disappointing factor was actually the way we played. It was like we were a bunch of kids out there that hadn't

played football before."

Sermanni will be forced into at least one change for this week's game against Parramatta Power with Alex Castro suffering a suspected fracture to his right ankle.

With Scottish defenders David Winnie and Brian Hamilton due this week he will be able add to his team and Sermanni says he will have no hesitation in putting the new arrivals straight into the starting line up.

"Players really need to look at what they're producing in the team," says Sermanni, "and with that in mind there will obviously be changes for next week."

Brisbane coach John Kosmina thought his team earned their late goal. "I think we played well enough to probably deserve it, although at times we made our life difficult."

Kosmina also was critical of his team's performance. "We gave some silly balls away all through the game but we got away with it."

Both teams will be looking to dramatically improve their standard of play coming into tough periods over the next few weeks. The Cosmos look a much more solid and organised unit than last year but will continue to struggle against quality opposition until they learn to keep possession.

Brisbane will be well pleased with their start and rightly so, but they also will need to lift their game if they are to defeat better sides than Canberra and have a real impact on this season.

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Sabljak the Force behind first victory



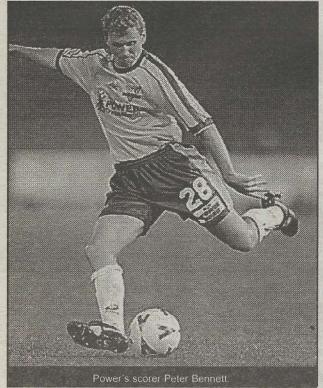
ADELAIDE FORCE 2

Kim 35, Mori 42

PARRAMATTA POWER 1

Bennett 53

Friday night at Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide. Crowd 6,100



By Margaret Bowden and Donald Campbell

Curiosity to see new team Parramatta Power, coached by Adelaide-raised David Mitchell and Zoran Matic's new line-up for the Force, excellent pre-match entertainment and amusements drew over 6,000 to the redeveloped Hindmarsh Stadium on Friday night.

Some were disappointed at the quality of the game, but others appreciated the opportunity to see something a bit different from the Force.

The defence looked lost at times without ice man Ivanovic sweeping and tended to panic in the second half when Parramatta began to get the upper hand.

The big plus for spectators was the introduction of 18-year-old White City goalkeeper Jonathon Lihou, originally from Darwin; Adelaide City State League defender Michael Cartwright; local

favourite Aurelio Vidmar; and Brazilian pocket dynamo Igor Rodrigues.

Rodrigues is an entertainer in the making, with brilliant ball skills and the cheek to turn the opposition defence inside out. Vidmar, after being crticized in the last two matches, showed touches of the class which has made him so popular, Cartwright slotted into the defence admirably, and Lihou looked every bit the part in the first half and latter stages of the second.

He created history by becoming the first goalkeeper in coach Matic's memory to suffer cramp!

The Force took the upper hand in the first half, having five shots at goal and scoring two. Parramatta, who surprised the fans with their lack of hard running at the Force

defence, could manage only two scoring attempts.

It was a different story in the second half, with the Power having six scoring chances compared to the Force's three. Substitute Danny Townsend had two free kick chances to put the Power in the driving seat, but both went well wide and high of the goal.

It was local youngster Nick Sabljak, 88.5 Coast FM Bianco Builders' Player of the Match, who came out with all guns firing, determined to blast the Force to a home win.

Working tirelessly down the right, he peppered cross after cross into the penalty area for Damian Mori and Nathan Day to finish off. Mori was off target most of the night, skimming a shot past the far post in the 14th minute.

The game was a midfield battle for most of the first half, with Jacob Burns, Walter Ardone and ex-Force player John Gibson doing battle with Vidmar, Sabljak,

Dongi-Ki Kim and Rodrigues.

The tackles came in hard and fast, but in the 27th minute, Day and Cartwright set Mori up for a stinging shot which forced a brilliant diving save to the right from Parramatta keeper Crews.

Rodrigues then teased Blagojevic, skipping past him, but failing to finish. Mori headed a shot onto the crossbar in the 33rd minute. The crowd was getting restless - all these chances wasted!

Up went the chants - 'Here we go, here we go, here we go'. Parramatta raced upfield and Gibson slammed the ball at Lihou, who needed two grabs to hold it.

He booted it into the Force attacking zone and suddenly it was in the net. Sabljak crossed from the right to Kim who gave Mori a lesson in finishing -1-0 Force, 35th minute.

The ecstatic Kim pulled his shirt over his head and ran around celebrating his goal. The crowd loved it, but David Dwight pulled out the yellow card and booked him! Unbelievable.

This spurred the Force on and seven minutes later, Mori scored their second - again from a Sabljak cross. Half time and the Force led 2-0.

As so often happens, the game turned in the second half and the Power took control. Lihou was forced into a scrambled save from a low, hard Ardone shot in the 49th minute.

The clearance fell straight into the path of Mile Sterjovski, but luckily Alex Tobin cleared his shot. Things were starting to look shaky at the back. Where oh where was Ivanovic?!

Parramatta took a corner four minutes later resulting in Lihou tipping the ball over the bar then going down with cramp.

He recovered, but was obviously still in pain when the opportunistic Bennet floated in a high ball from 30 metres on the left. Lihou seemed to lose it in the light, and it lobbed into the net - stunned silence - was it a goal?

Lihou later admitted that he had simply made an error of judgement - he thought it was going over the top and made no attempt to save it - 2-1 Force after 53 minutes.

This was the turning point for Parramatta. For the next 20 minutes Adelaide Force looked decidedly shaky and the Power went in for the kill, pumping high ball after high ball into the box.

Mitchell made a tactical change, replacing Richerd Plesa with Joel Griffiths,

MATCH STATS

ADELAIDE FORCE: Lihou, Tobin,



Mori, Sabljak, Vidmar, Rodrigues (Veart 74), Day (Zelic 88), Cartwright, Costanzo, Hassell, Kim 33.

OVER

PARAMATTA POWER: Crews, Santalab, Eagleton, Plesa (Griffiths 57), Vrkic (Berry 79), Burrns, Ardone, Gibson (Townsend 79), Sterjovski, Blagojevic, Rennett

Yellow Force: Kim 35

Red

Power: Ardone 74

Best Players

3: NICK SABLJAK (AD FORCE)
2: Angelo Costanzo (Adelaide Force)

1: Jacob Burns (Paramatta Power)

Referee: David Dwight

but Griffiths couldn't find the goalscoring form he displayed last season.

Steve Eagleton stepped up the pace, cutting out the Force attacks and pumping the ball forward, but Parramatta couldn't finish off.

Lihou began to regain his confidence in goal, stopping a Sterjovski piledriver, then pouncing on a close range shot from Bennett.

A rash act by Ardone in the 74th minute then swung the game back in Force's favour.

Ardone, who had been tearing the Force defence apart, bundled Rodrigues to the ground and stomped on his shoulder. Referee Dwight had no choice but to show him the red card.

This left Burns, who had been working in tandem with Ardone, to battle on in combination with Griffiths and Eagleton, who caused more panic in the Force defence but left Day, Sabljak and a very fit Bradley Hassell more free to attack.

Sabljak missed a sizzler from 25 metres and Griffiths forced Lihou into a brilliant finger-tip save over the bar, but Parramatta were looking at the writing on the wall once they were down to 10 players.

Word has it Ardone will be heavily

COMMENT

First the Sharks, now Ivanovic! What is happening to the game in Adelaide? No second team, no maestro. Not only that, but there is the threat that there will be no West Adelaide juniors next season a situation causing grave concern a nongst the soccer fraternity here.

However, moves are afoot to ensure that a new junior set-up will be put in place - soccer simply cannot afford to lose such a talent base.

There is a strong feeling that the Pheonix will rise from the ashes and a new, strong club will replace the old West Adelaide.

Mourning the loss cannot go on forever, and the general public is now looking forward to better and brighter things from all soccer clubs in South Australia.

It is a timely warning to all involved in the game that there is a need to move with the times or suffer a similar fate to that of the Sharks

Despite the losses suffered by soccer in SA in the past month, and the shock announcement mid-week that Milan Ivanovic had played his last game - number 301 for the Force - a larger than anticipated crowd turned up to sample their first Force feed at Hindmarsh on Friday night, and to farewell the grand 'old man' of the NSL and national team, Milan Ivanovic.

He was presented to the crowd and given a long, standing ovation before the kick-off. Many of the spectators hoped he would take the field on Friday, but when interviewed on 88.5 Coast FM, the great man said he felt the time was right for him to retire from NSL soccer, and will turn his attentions to coaching, as he would like to give something back to the game.

Milan's retirement from the Force, although a shock, is another change which must be embraced in a positive manner. The club will now groom another younger player as sweeper to take the

Force into the next century.

The all-seater Hindmarsh stadium is fast becoming attractive to spectators - a far cry from the unfriendly place it was during reconstruction.

The height all the way around the pitch creates atmosphere even when there is not a great deal of noise, and Friday's crowd made the most of this. Interestingly, and in a good omen for the future of soccer here, it was a different crowd from last season, too.

The old chants of 'Juve, Juve' were replaced by drumming, clapping and chants of 'Here we go, here we go, here we go' and 'Ole, ole, ole' from the Southern stand which caught on in the main stand.

We need to forget 'club' allegiances and join forces to support the greatest game in the world - to come out and celebrate the talent on the pitch, to enjoy ourselves as spectators and to prove to the South Australian Government that Hindmarsh Stadium is definitely not a

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*Next week Inside Soccer hopes to interview Milan Ivanovic.

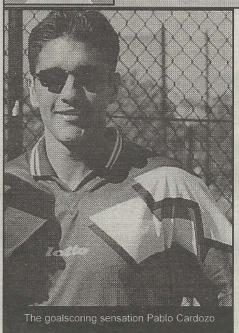
Olympic takes it up a notch as Cardozo stars



WOLLONGONG WOLVES 0 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 4

Cardozo 7pen, 69, 79 Arambasic 26

Saturday night at Brandon Park, Wollongong. Crowd: 5,021



By John Vrtaric

Sydney Olympic emerged from their visit to Wollongong with a resounding 4-0 victory after a very confident performance, assisted by a disappointing display from the home team's goal-keeper, Daniel Beltrame.

Last year's top goal scorer Pablo Cardozo awoke from a short early season hibernation to put away a hat trick of goals.

Another welcome sight was the tremendous form of Olyroo captain Brett Emerton who, but for Cardozo's hat trick, would have been man of the match. Emerton seems to have emerged from his second year slump and has made a rousing start to the new season. His pace and skill will prove a nightmare to many a defender this season.

Beltrame was responsible for two goals and was the culprit in giving away a penalty for Olympic's first goal. The second and third goals both resulted from Beltrame errors with the first of those being scored by Zlatko Arambasic after a floated free kick from the left was badly mis-judged by the 'keeper.

The ball sailed over the advancing Beltrame and Arambasic ghosted in behind him to easily head the ball into an empty net.

The third goal also resulted from a free kick - a foul on Arambasic about 30 metres out from the goal was hit directly into the goal inside the near post with Beltrame totally out of position.

The keeper expected the free kick to be directed towards the far post to the heads of the Olympic attackers but Cardozo saw him move off his line and a superb, swerving shot just inside the near post.

Although three of Olympic's goals were defensive mistakes they put on their best display of the season and fully deserved the victory.

Olympic were dominant throughout the match and did not allow the Wollongong forwards a direct shot on goal until Esala Masi was able to test the Olympic 'keeper in the 81st minute.

On a windy and rainy evening Wollongong and Olympic started the match on an even keel with both teams

having won one and drawn one of their two games.

Wollongong was soon on the back foot with the penalty being awarded against them in the sixth minute. A bad clearance by the home team sweeper Robert Stanton deflected off midfielder Noel Spencer to the preying Brett Emerton whose vision allowed to spot an unmarked Arambasic just outside the Wollongong penalty area.

His skill enabled him to provide the central striker with a perfectly weighted chip that he controlled with his chest. Unfortunately for Beltrame the striker did not control it well enough and as the ball ran away from Arambasic the 'keeper saw the opportunity to intervene but Arambasic was a shade quicker to the ball and Beltrame brought him down.

A clear penalty, and Cardozo stepped up to take the responsibility and he cooly converted with a well placed shot past Beltrame.

Three minutes later Scott Thomas was given a good opportunity to shoot on goal. Cardozo received the ball ten metres in from Olympic's left touch line and he brilliantly beat two defenders before passing the ball to Arambasic, who in turn squared to Emerton.

A well executed dummy by the midfielder allowed the ball to roll across the Wollongong penalty area where Thomas drilled a well struck shot that sailed harmlessly over the bar.

Emerton caused havoc down Wollongong's left and he provided Cardozo with another fine pass inside the penalty box in the 12th minute. Cardozo turned his man but his shot on goal was blocked by another defender.

In the 26th minute a foul by Spencer on the speedy Peter Zorbas, wide on the left, was the catalyst for the second goal. The free kick was floated towards the far post where Beltrame's error allowed the ball to sail over his out-stretched arms to the Turking Arambasic behind him. Arambasic had come onto the field only a few seconds earlier after his treatment and unnoticed by anyone was able to ghost in behind the defence completely unattended.

Olympic continued to dominate the rest of the half and an opportunity went begging in the 36th minute. Ante Juric, the visitor's sweeper, intercepted an aimless ball on the halfway line and advanced with it towards the Wollongong goal. He passed it to Emerton who again beat his man on the outside and sent in a low cross towards the near post. Arambasic narrowly failed to get a touch to it and the ball carried on to Beltrame who grasped it just in front of Juric, who had carried on with his run.

Wollongong came into the game more in the second half but in their search for goals they left themselves exposed to counter attacks.

Emerton was in the thick of the attacks and in the 50th minute a typically aggressive run brought him onto the edge of the penalty box where his rather tame left foot shot was easily handled by the 'keeper.

Wollongong continued to search for the comeback goal while Olympic always looked threatening with counter-attacks, mainly involving Emerton, Cardozo and Thomas.

The killer goal came in the 69th minute with the foul on Arambasic - too eager to go for the anticipated cross, Beltrame left his near post totally exposed and Cardozo did the rest.

In the 74th minute Emerton beat his opponent, again, and provided a superb swerving cross but there was no-one placed to take advantage of it.

Wollongong created a couple of half



In the 15th minute, a corner for Wollongong was headed from the far post to the unmarked Saso Petrovski, standing only two metres from the goal line. He was ruled offside and his shot was saved by George Bouhoutsos, anyway.

A heavy clash in the 22nd minute between George Souris and Arambasic was partly instrumental in the second goal scored four minutes later. Arambasic came off second best and had to leave the field for treatment.

chances before Olympic struck for the final time.

Nick Carle, who had come on for Arambasic, collected a stray ball in his own half of the field and beat one defender, just retaining his balance after being tripped.

He laid the ball off to Emerton and continued on with a diagonal run - Emerton spotted the run and provided Carle with a perfect through ball just

MATCH STATS



WOLLONGONG:
Beltrame, Horsley, Harlock,
(Reid 46), Stanton, Souris,
Huxley (Cervinski 87),
Spencer (Dimovski 76),
Surjan, Chipperfield,
Petrovski, Masi

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Bouhoutsos, Thomas, Wilson, Juric, Baillie, Tsekenis, Emerton, Phillips, Zorbas (Mendez 83), Arambasic (N. Carle 74), Cardozo.

Yellows

Wollongong: Spencer 25 Sydney Olympic: Thomas 20, Zorbas 61, Cardozo 71

Best Player

CARDOZO (OLYMPIC)
 Emerton (Olympic)
 Phillips (Olympic)

Referee: G. Connolly

inside the penalty box. Carle dummied past David Huxley and took the ball to the by-line from where he provided Cardozo with a perfect back pass. The hat-trick hero had no trouble smashing the ball into the net to complete a great day at the office.

Olympic were superb as a team - while Emerton and Cardozo provided most of the attacking sparks, the defensive troika of Peter Tsekenis, Scott Baillie and Juric were superb. Marcus Phillips and Thomas were equally industrious in the midfield, providing assistance to both their attack and defence.

Wollongong were totally outplayed with only Stanton and captain Matt Horsley putting in wholehearted efforts.

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INSIDE SOCCER

Unbeaten Carlton destroys lacklustre Stallions



MARCONI STALLIONS 0 CARLTON 4 Thompson 40, Tricarico 61,

McPherson 83, Marth pen 86

Sunday evening at Marconi Stadium, Sydney. Crowd 6,219.

By Paul Goodwin

This was meant to be Marconi's day, but despite all the hoopla and offthe-field flurry of activity, it turned out to be Carlton's instead.

The polished Melbourne side did everything right, especially in the finishing department, a quality which the locals failed dismally to reproduce, particularly early in proceedings and which they were left to rue for the remainder of the game.

On paper this should have been a solid Marconi win. Going into the game without injured skipper Brad Maloney and the still unfit Francis Awaritife, the Stallions still had the talented Sean Babic to lead their attack after showing rare form already this term and the team did appear to be firing on all cylinders.

Sadly for home supporters Babic limped off after only 25 minutes, having been unable to break through a well disciplined Carlton defence for whom Andrew Marth and David McPherson were outstanding.

Babic strained a hamstring stretching for a through pass and was down in an instant. A player plagued with injuries which have held back his progress in the past, Babic soon signalled to be replaced.

There is of course a long way to go in a season which his coach Eddie Krncevic expects to be highly productive for his young striker and he would want to take no unnecessary risks with his hot property at this early stage.

Carlton weathered the early Marconi pressure well, good probing from Danny Invincibile and Chad Gibson allowing Babic to give the visitors plenty to think about, but as so often happens, the ball just would not go in the net and eventually Carlton got their noses in front instead.

Lubo Lapsansky indicated what was to come later, in greater measure, when he made two incisive runs down the left in the first seven minutes, in the first robbing Chad Gibson and bursting into the area to be forced wide by an alert defence, but still getting in a low shot that David Aceski claimed nicely.

His second run ended when Mark Babic made a timely tackle, but he was not the only visiting player troubling the home defence which had its hands full with the slippery Archie Thompson and the creative Joe Tricarico.

The main scoring chances of the first half hour belonged to Marconi, however, with Kris Trajanovski squandering a giltedged opportunity in the 16th when a ball despatched across the face of the goal from wide on the right by Invincibile was left alone by Gibson for Trajanovski to deal with instead, at the far post, but the Marconi man lifted the ball well over the bar from only six yards.

The departure of Babic and the arrival of Harry Karl might have been expected to keep Marconi well in the hunt, but a Carlton side, growing rapidly in confidence, thought better of that notion.

Thompson had already jinked his way into the box once after a nicely nodded on pass by Mike Conroy in the 36th and when Tricarico played a long ball down the middle for the former Gippsland man to chase, it needed only an exchange

of passes with Lupsansky to see Thompson race on to face the keeper and beat him with a very cool, low finish in the

Marconi had two good chances to equalise before going for a break, Karl failing to get his head cleanly to a fine cross from the right by Darren McDonald at the near post and McDonald himself smashing the ball wide from 25 yards after being given too much space just outside the box by a momentarily tentative

Carlton keeper Dean Anastasiadis



Manof the Match Carlton's Archie Thompson. Ironically it was Marconi coach Krncevic who brought him to Carlton last season.

began to make his presence felt in the second half as the Marconi push intensified and he was forced to punch clear in the 47th when a Brendan Renaud long range shot came hurtling in.

In the 56th minute defenders Craig Deans and Dave McPherson had to have their wits about them to deny Karl who looked set to seize on a Trajanovski ball pumped high towards goal. He instead went away empty handed.

A brave header from ex Brisbane Striker Andrew Packer from a Mark Atkinson cross in the 56th flashed just wide, as the visitors continued to search for further goals.

After former Hearts and Rangers defender Dave McPherson had gone close with a shot following a corner in the 58th Carlton extended their lead three minutes later.

The ball from another excellent corner by Lupsansky was cleared only as far as Tricarico, lurking on the fringe of the penalty area, and the midfielder let fly with a swerving shot which beat Aceski all ends up as it nestled in the top right corner of the net for a 2-0 lead.

After this additional setback Marconi again missed chances to pull goals back, Gibson steering one wide in the 64th, Karl blasting high and wide in the 68th and McDonald smacking a good shot goalwards in the 74th only to find Anastasiadis diving low to affect a smart save.

A minute later and Carlton might

have gone three up when Conroy, after exchanging passes with Thompson from an initial ball supplied by Tricarico, dwelt too long once in possession allowing Aceski to smother the attempt well out from his goal.

The last ten minutes brought more agony for Marconi when Gibson's shot was scrambled way by the defence and Trajanovski looped a header over the bar.

A regulation cross from the right by Lupsansky in the 80th saw the ball evade defenders stationed in the goalmouth and reach McPherson at the far post, where the big Scot had time to pick his spot with a well taken header for a 3-0 lead by a now buoyant Melbourne side.

At the other end, in the 83rd, a cracking volley by Invincibile was saved brilliantly by Anastasiadis, diving full length to his left, to again frustrate the home side.

Carlton weren't finished though, as Brazilian substitute Alex Moreira was allowed to get in behind the defence and take on Aceski who, totally exposed, panicked and brought him down inside the

The result, a red card for the keeper and a penalty for Carlton, meant that Buddy Farrah would have the task of picking the ball out of the back of the net after Marth deceived him with a well taken 86th minute spot kick.

Finally, Moreira made room for himself, but got his angles wrong in the time added on for stoppages, sparing Marconi a five goal defeat by screwing the ball wide from right in front.

It was one of Marconi's heaviest ever defeats at home and certainly their worst for a long time.

Marconi coach Krncevic was mainly disappointed for the fans who had been enticed to the game by the prospect of stunts from flame throwers, an appearance by 'The Simpsons', free face painting and a jumping castle, but the real intention of the club was to show them a winning football team.

Instead they were served up Carlton, under new coach Stuart Munro, giving a display which again indicated their very real claims to another season of high achievement.

MATCH STATS

MARCONI STALLIONS: Aceski,

JARCON

Gibson, Babic, Longo, P. Kim (Smith 67), McDonald, Zoric (Farah 62), Renaud, Babic (Karl 25), Trajanovski, Invincibile

CARLTON: Anastasiadis, McPherson, Deans, Douglas, Marth, Atkinson, Lupsansky Thompson, Conroy (Moreira 76)Tricarico,

Yellows: Brendan Renaud 24 (M), Darren McDonald 27 (M)

Red Card: David Aceski 86 (M) preventing a goalscoring opportunity

Best Player 3 ARCHIE THOMPSON (C) Joe Tricarico (C) 1 Dean Anastasiadis (C)

Referee: Brett Hugo

While Krncevic was far from complimentary about his team, he reserved his harshest words for the lack of punishment from the referee for some dubious tackles dished out by Carlton players.

Munro emphasised that while his side may have been flattered by the margin of their win they were thoroughly deserving of it and he did not disguise his pleasure at the discipline his side displayed. He was especially delighted with the quality of the finishing.

Marconi will now need to rush keeper Brett Hughes back into the side, after recovering from injury, to fill Aceski's shoes and striker Francis Awaritife, similarly, will need to deputise for Babic in the next game at Sydney United.

Both had runs in the Youth versus Colts match later in the evening.

The fate of skipper Brad Maloney is less certain; he again failed to pass a fitness test for this game and may still be in doubt for the next.

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Trajkovski turns on the class for Glory

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 0 PERTH GLORY 3 Magdic og15, Boutsianis 71,

Despotovski 79.

Sunday afternoon at Knights Stadium, Melbourne. Crowd 3,360



By Mark Fisher

Perth Glory went to Knights Stadium eager to improve after last week's 3-3 draw at home to Marconi. They left no doubts about these intentions on Sunday, as they produced a classy three-goal onslaught to keep themselves firmly embedded in the top six. It was a rather entertaining match, with quite a few chances presenting themselves to both sides, but in the end the final result was a pretty good reflection of the way it all unfolded.

In typical fashion, coach Bernd Stange was not overly convinced by his team's first-half efforts, even though they dominated play for large portions of it.

His starting eleven got away well with some promising flanking movements from the tireless Robert Trajkovski stretching the Knights defence out wide, but

good work in goals by Martin John kept things on an even keel.

That was the case until the 15th minute, when a powerful Boutsianis corner acutely curled in towards the far post. Paul Magdic could do little more than make a complete mess of things, by allowing the ball to brush his chest and then slip into the net.

His team-mates haplessly looked on as Perth hit the lead, courtesy of the embarrassing own-goal.

Immediately the Knights tightened up and went on the lookout for an equaliser. Smooth lead-up work allowed Joe Rahjer to surge forward in the 22nd minute. He quickly aimed an absolute pile-driver at goal.

The shot brought out an incredible save from Tony Franken, who launched himself high to his right, with his touch tipping the ball just inches wide of the post.

The soft shot that followed however allowed the Knights goalkeeper to again unravel what was a brief yet highly entertaining passage of play.

The Knights to their credit though responded by creating three good chances at goal late in the half.

The first came in the 34th minute when Jamie Harnwell brought down Ivan Kelic just outside of the 18-yard box. Mark Silic took the penalty shot, which sailed just over the wall but rebounded off the bar, eliciting groans of despair from much of the crowd.

The second chance came when Trajkovski was forced to clear off the line, after the Knights applied some goal mouth pressure from a corner in the 41st minute. Chance number three then presented itself when the elusive Silic hit a wellaimed rocket from 30 yards out, only to see it diverted from goal by another acrobatic Franken save.

The Knights forwards just couldn't crack Glory's last line of defence, and so the score remained in favour of the visitors at half time.

The Knights sensed they were still in the contest after the break, and continued in the same vein early in the second stan-

> za. With Perth now seemingly content to push back and prepare for the counter, the Knights midfield was allowed much more room to string some sustained movements together.

> This continued until Trajkovski and substitute John Carbone helped arrest the minor slump in possession, and in doing so enabled the Glory to come home in emphatic fashion.

Carbone instrumental in setting up goal number two for Perth. Boutsianis found space in the 70th minute through the centre, and then layed off a

pass to Carbone on the left forward flank. Carbone then returned the favour, to enable Boutsianis to shoot into the right side of the net and complete a clinical fin-

Melbourne Knights were suddenly another goal down.

Perth weren't done yet, and showed clearly they had another goal left in them only nine minutes later, when Martin John ran well forward off his line.

Bobby Despotovski was quick to realise the error, and responded by sending a well-weighted shot from a good 40 yards out. It sailed over the 'keepers

head, and yes indeed, straight into the goal.

John's blemish all but ruled out any comeback by the Knights, who, despite another late flurry, had to concede defeat against a determined and well-drilled

MATCH STATS

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS:

Martin John, Joe Rahjer (Ante Kovacevic 78"), Rody Vargas, Jason

Vukadin, Mark Silic, Dragi Nastevski, Ivan Kelic, Paul Urlovic, Paul Magdic (Ransford Banini 58"), Zeljko Susa, Michael Reda (Brandon Vassallo 71").



PERTH GLORY:

Tony Franken, Robert Trajkovski, Scott Miller, Gareth Naven, Jamie Harnwell, Edgar Junior, Troy Halpin, Ivan Ergic,

Alistair Edwards (John Carbone 59"), Bobby Despotovski, Con Boutsianis.

Yellows:

Joe Rahjer (Melbourne Knights) 6" Michael Reda (Melbourne Knights) 31" Jamie Harnwell (Perth Glory) 34" Jason Vukadin (Melbourne Knights)

Best Players 3 - ROBERT TRAJKOVSKI (PERTH GLORY)

2 - Con Boutsianis (Perth Glory) 1 - Tony Franken (Perth Glory)

Referee: Simon Micallef

Perth Glory outfit.

The Knights coach Joe Biskic delayed his emergence from the home dressing room, only to meet a media contingent bent on asking some probing questions about his team's form.

He hinted at a possible lack of commitment from his players by saying that "the guys have to pull their socks up".

Further, the strain of sustaining three early defeats was beginning to tell. "I told them you have to be honest and try to do something here, otherwise I won't be here and you won't be here," Biskic said.

He admitted also that the supporters had some reason to feel concerned, claiming that "when you get a result, the crowd will come". Around 4,000 turned out to see a match played in excellent weather and which lacked competition from other sporting attractions in the area.

Robert Trajkovski, perhaps the best player on the park, suggested that he would have been happy with a win at

Somers Street regardless of the margin.

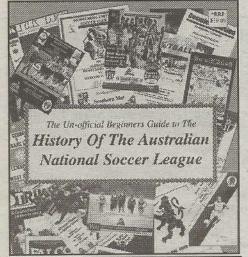
Even more forthcoming was his coach, Bernd Stange, who stated at the post-match conference that "Perth Glory was another class today. I am

proud with the result". He did however highlight difficulties his team has faced over the past three weeks, such as "integrating" a somewhat changed squad after losing the likes of Danny Hay, Gianfranco Circati and Craig Deans at the end of last season.

The Glory is proving to be one of the hardest sides to beat when on the road. Nevertheless, it is

their performances at Perth Oval that could again determine their championship prospects.





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It was especially pleasing to see his effort drawing praise from the staunchly partisan Knights faithful.

The Knights then went onto the back foot temporarily as Perth counter-attacked in style, with Bobby Despotovski crossing neatly to Boutsianis in the 23rd minute.

Boutsianis tried a clever little chip at goal, but the Knights' custodian Martin John was equal to the task.

Bobby Despotovski yet again provided a quality cross in the 25th minute. Alistair Edwards collected the ball inside the box, but wasn't able to keep his shot low enough to convert the chance.

Perth were by now really starting to pile on the pressure. Their midfield and strikers were clicking together, penetrating the Knights' defence wide and through the centre almost at will.

Consecutive efforts involving various combinations of Trajkovksi, Boutsianis, Halpin and Despotovski were causing serious headaches for the embattled Knights, highlighting a gulf in class between the two teams which had to be seen to be appreciated.

The best of these attacking plays by Perth unfolded in the 27th minute, when a running Trajkovski on the right backheeled to Alistair Edwards, who in turn centred a pin-point cross to the loose player in Despotovski.



Every cloud has a Silva lining!

FOOTBALL KINGZ 1 Silva 34 SOUTH MELBOURNE 0

Sunday afternoon at North Harbour Stadium, Auckland, NZ. Crowd 4,500



MATCH STATS:

KINGZ: Perry, Moya, Bunce, Vicelich; Middleby (Jackson, 70), Osman, Ngata, Mennillo (Stergiopoulos, 70); de Jong, Silva (Suri, 64)

SOUTH:
Jones; losifidis, Blatsis
(Orlic, 59), de Amicis;
Panopoulos, Clarkson,
Liparoti, Lozanovski;
Coveny, Trimboli
(Goutzioulos, 76).

Curcija (Magnacca, 64)

Yellows:

Kingz: J. Perry (6), F. de Jong (14),

A. Silva (34)

South: F de Amicis (50), M. Curcija (

64), V. Coveny (86) Red: Liparoti 62

Best Players:

3: F. DE JONG (KINGZ)

2: I. Vicelich (Kingz)1: R. Middleby (Kingz)

Referee: Mark Shields

By Jeremy Ruane

The stormclouds which had gathered over North Harbour Stadium in the wake of the Football Kingz' two game, two loss record in the Australian National Soccer League were found to contain a Silva lining on October 17, as the New Zealand-based side secured their first victory in the competition, at the expense of no less a combination than the defending champions themselves, South Melbourne.

Chilean striker Aaron Silva's 34th minute goal was the lone difference between the sides on the scoreboard, but the 1-0 scoreline completely flattered the vanguished team

Such was the dominance of the Kingz that South Melbourne couldn't have complained had they found themselves on the wrong end of a 4-0 hiding - they simply weren't at the races on this gloriously sunny spring Sunday!!

While Silva will claim the plaudits for scoring the all-important winner, the Kingz know full well that they should have won by a far greater margin - on another day, their profligacy in front of goal could well have been severely punished by a side which faces engagements with Vasco de Gama, Nexaca and Manchester United in Brazil in January.

The Kingz missed the proverbial bucketload of chances in this match, many of which were created by the game's most outstanding individual, Fred de Jong.

The former Marconi Fairfield, Fortuna Sittard and All White targetman was in magnificent form throughout this encounter, his deft touches, aerial prowess and ability to create openings for others while himself under pressure making life a misery for many a South

D vodifone

Melbourne defender, while at the same time delighting the vast majority of the 4,500-strong crowd.

While de Jong was irresistible, Robbie Middleby was irrepressible. The decision to return North Harbour Stadium's playing area dimensions to their regular size allowed the man nicknamed "Chooky" the chance to fully exploit the open spaces upon which he thrives.

He didn't disappoint. Indeed, it was his darting surge onto a de Jong pass which proved the inspiration for the goal. As defenders ahead of him quivered and shivered, a precise through ball afforded the dancing feet of Silva the room in which to soft-shoe-shuffle his way around Chris Jones before stroking the ball unerringly into the gaping goal.

It was a strike which set the crowd alight, and was just reward for an outstanding first half performance from a team which is gradually coming to grips with the demands of professional football.

Both de Jong and Middleby have endured this experience in the past, but for the Kingz All White defender, Ivan Vicelich, it's a whole new ball game. And how he is relishing it! His display in this match was majestic, often chiming in on attack with his trademark forward forays from deep, while never once being bettered in his rearguard role.

He was ably supported by his fellow foilers of all things offensive, David Moya, Che Bunce and Jonathan Perry. Indeed, such was their dominance that Jason Batty, making his Kingz debut in place of the injured Michael Utting, didn't have to make a single save of note.

Player-coach Wynton Rufer, who, after dropping hints in the local media that he would be a starter in this match, opted not to involve himself on the playing side of the fence this week, was, understandably, delighted with the outcome. "Even if it had been an own goal which won us the game, I would have been rapt!!"

His opposite, South's Ange

Postecoglou, was far from amused by his team's failure to perform. "We got what we deserved. One team looked more desperate than the other today, and it showed in the final outcome.

"The Kingz fully deserved their win, as theirs was a good team effort. Ours was not".

It was difficult to single out a single South Melbourne player for praise.

Much was expected of the highly reputed pairing of Paul Trimboli and Michael Curcija - they return home with their images on this side of the Tasman somewhat tarnished, both having failed to raise their game when push came to shove in this fixture.

Vaughan Coveny, a local lad made good, and another from whom much was expected in this encounter, was also conspicuous by his anonymity, save for his 86th minute booking, a rather embarrassing moment for the All White which, somewhat perversely, was well received by the native support!!

As was the 62nd minute red card afforded Robert Liparoti by referee Mark Shields, the midfielder having scythed down Harry Ngata with a mistimed challenge which left the well-performed Kingz skipper writhing in agony.

He was soon back in the thick of things, however, producing a performance which earned him the Kingz Supporters' Club's Player of the Day award. It must have been a close-run thing, however, because De Jong's energetic display was hardly of the sort one expects of a 35-year-old.

One thing's for sure, it certainly merited a goal. And while he squandered two

fine openings in the second spell, arguably his best chance came in the 27th minute. A fulminating

left-foot volley which crashed against the outside of Jones' right-hand upright, after a beautifully flighted Middleby pass had allowed the striker to ghost in behind the statuesque South Melbourne defence.

One goal was all the Kingz had to show for nigh on ninety minutes of dominance, however, but it proved enough. Equally as pleasing was the quality of their football:

"I was delighted with our first half showing in particular", expounded Rufer afterwards, as he echoed the



words spoken some forty-eight hours previously by the victorious Kiwi League coach, Frank Endacott.

Building on this initial victory is now the Kingz prime objective. Its celebrations will be short-lived, as decreed by a Friday night engagement with the unbeaten Newcastle combination at Breakers Stadium



Sydney United survive late red card to take point

GIPPSLAND FALCONS 1 Fak 78 SYDNEY UNITED 1 A. Moric 60

Saturday night at Mobil Park, Gippsland. Crowd 1,953



MATCH STATS

GIPPSLAND FALCONS



Bojo Jevdjevic - Dean Fak-Manny Gotis - Adrian Savage - Doug Marcina -Andy Vargas - Clayton Bell -Robbie Puca - John Hutchinson (Will Hastie 85min) - Juan Nilo (Peter

Kakos 78min) - Brian MacNicol

SYDNEY UNITED



John Crawley - Ray Younis (sent off 85min) -Velimir Kupresak - Eddy Bosnar - Vince Savocca-Nahuel Arrarte - Mario Jermen (Aytec Genc 85min) - Ante Moric - Tom

Pondeljak - Kain Rastall - Joe Moric

Yellows

Vince Savocca (S) for a foul on Juan Nilo - Yellow card 35 min

Ante Moric (S) for a late tackle on Andy Vargas - Yellow card 39 min Andy Vargas (G) for diving - Yellow card

Ray Younis (S) for a late tackle on John Hutchinson - Red Card 85 min

BEST PLAYER

- 3 ANTE MORIC (SYDNEY UNITED)
- 2 Robbie Puca (Gippsland Falcons)1 Velimir Kupresak (Sydney United)

Referee: Con Diomis

By Luciano Viggiano

On a perfect evening at Mobil Park, the Gippsland Falcons welcomed a new look Sydney United team high in confidence after their first victory against the Football Kingz the previous week. The Falcons also high in confidence entered the game with an unchanged lineup after the previous week's impressive encounter with Carlton, and were still without key defender and leader Mehmet Durakovic due to injury.

The game began at a frantic pace with both sides prepared to run hard and close down quickly in an attempt to gain midfield supremacy.

The defensive trio of Kupresak, Bosnar and Savocca for United were having little trouble dealing with the Falcons high ball game, while at the other end the Gippsland defensive team of Savage, Gotis and Fak were matching up well with the United forwards.

As the first half progressed the influence of Ante Moric in the Sydney United midfield became more apparent.

His ability to find teammates in space and support the forwards was becoming a headache for the Falcons who were finding it difficult to get behind a well-marshalled United defence.

United were having the better of general play, with their free flowing passing game, however the Falcons were putting together better attacking moves drawing some six corners in the first half.

Robbie Puca on the left and Doug Marcina on the right for the Falcons were overlapping well and constantly pumping teasing crosses into the United penalty area.

The best chance of the half fell to the Falcons when an overlapping run by Marcina resulted in a pin point cross that found Nilo nestled in behind the tall United defenders, but his powerful header went just wide of the United goal.

United looked their most dangerous when ex-Melbourne Knights forward, Tom Pondeljak got involved.

His battle with Dean Fak was one of the few highlights from the first half, which ended 0-0, the scoreline a fair reflection of the status of play to half time.

The second half began with neither coach making any positional changes and content to try and wear down their opponents

The Falcons forward combination of Nilo and MacNichol were having little luck against a disciplined United defence lead by the "old fox" in Velimir Kupresek, while the United striking pair of Jerman and Pondeljak were also finding life difficult against their tenacious Falcons markers in Fak and Gotis.

It became more and more apparent that with the two defences well on top, a goal would only come from some midfield creativity or a defensive error.

With Ante Moric coming to the fore in midfield it was United that broke the dead-lock in the 68 minute with a combination of some loose Falcons defending and great running by Ante Moric to take the chance when it finally came.

From one of many Pondeljak runs down the right, the Falcons defence were caught napping when a looping cross which the Falcons keeper Bojo Jevdjevic

should have attacked, found Ante Moric at the far post unmarked and he made no mistake to make it 1-0 Sydney United.

The goal resulted in some positional changes by Jeff Hopkins, who brought on the taller Peter Kakos for Nilo up forward, in his first home game appearance for the Falcons after joining from Port Melbourne in the Victorian Premier League in which he was the season's top scorer.

Hopkins also pushed Robbie Puca up into an attacking role in an attempt to get the Falcons back into the

The move of Puca into a more attacking role paid dividends for the Falcons when one of his teasing runs drew a foul just outside the United penalty area.

Puca proceeded to deliver a low,



curling cross which caught the tall United defenders flat footed and saw Dean Fak ghost in at the far post unmarked to tap in his first goal for the club and the equaliser; 1-1.

The Falcons continued to try and create chances for a winner, while United were content to lock the game up and go back home with a well-earned point.

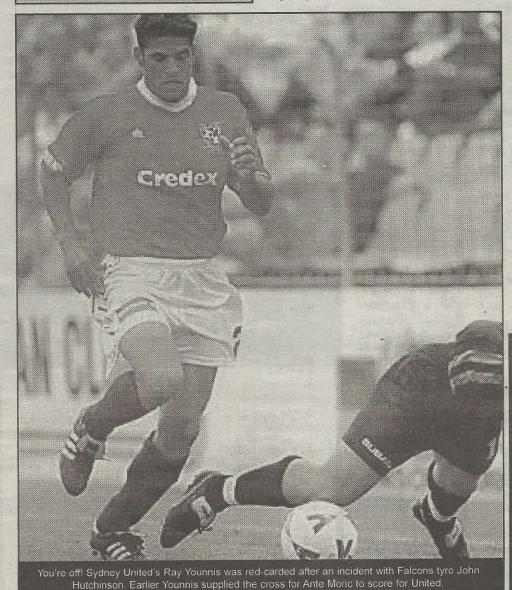
The game turned nasty in the last five minutes when United's Ray Younis was sent off for a late and high tackle on John Hutchinson who was stretched from the ground.

To the referee's credit he handled the situation well and prevented what could have been a nasty end to the match.

In summary, the game never reached any great heights with the respective defences well on top.

The best player on the night in my opinion was Ante Moric for Sydney United who looked fit and sharp and back to his form of earlier seasons.

Robbie Puca for the Falcons seems to get better each week; his pace and teasing crosses made him a stand out on the night, while the "old fox" Velmir Kupresak never seems to put a foot wrong and looks like he could play on longer than the great Milan Ivanovic.



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INSIDE JUNIOR SOCCER



NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE



By Chris Conti

A.C.T.A.S Q.A.S

Academies fought out a 1-1 draw at Bruce Stadium on Friday evening, giving reason to suggest that both young squads will cause quite a few headaches for the older teams in this season's National Youth League.

Exuding confidence as could be expected from a team who had scored thirteen goals in their previous two games, the Queensland forwards looked very sharp with Morgan Cawley, Lawrence Drake and Matthew McKay combining well and Russell Miner busying himself behind the front players. However the ACT back four, comprising Dom Labutte, Phil Yarnold, Luke Morgan and

Shadmaan were capable of withstanding Queensland onslaught. At the other end, Daniel Aliffi and Paul Ivanic were proving a handful for the Queensland defence, and o d d Boddington, Queenslander was the busier of the two keepers.

However, as in many games, the battle to gain control of the midfield was and intense caused referee Aaron Lowther to pull out his yellow card on occasions. Neither side was willing to concede the

advantage and the tackling was torrid and committed, exemplified by two of the best on the park, ACT's Stephen Kemp and Queensland's Adam Webber. But at the end of the first stanza the keepers and defenders of both teams had come out on top, and the teams went to the break at 0-0.

In the second half, the QAS coach Gary Phillips instructed his team to attack in greater numbers and in the 63rd minute the stalemate was broken. The ACT defenders failed to clear a loose ball following a good run from Drake, and Cawley was on hand to fire the ball past the despairing dive of ACT keeper Rade Kosanovic. This goal seemed to spur the ACT Academy into action and during the next twenty minutes began to gradually wear down the Queenslanders. Kemp was making himself busy in midfield and Rohan Coleman who came on for Matt

Jullienne put his speed to good use to attack the left flank of the QAS. After wasting a number of good opportunities, the ACTAS equalised in the 83rd minute. Adam Williams' exquisite in-swinging corner was perfectly judged for the unmarked Goran Veljanovski to head home. Five minutes later, Veljanovski very nearly won the game for the ACTAS when he picked up a long clearance from the ACTAS defence and chipped Boddington only to see the ball narrowly miss.

The game finished disappointingly for the ACTAS stopper, Morgan, who had been extremely solid at the back, when he picked up his second yellow card in the 89th minute. Morgan was dashing back to his position in the heart of the defence, after a corner, when he tackled a QAS player illegally from behind.

ACTAS Coach, Ray Junna, was reaonably satisfied with the result and his team's performance and commitment, but not happy with the number of times the ball was turned over to the other side and the quality of some of the passing; and he did praise his team's determination to fight back after going a goal down. However, a draw was probably a fair result, and both coaches will take a lot from the game for planning the next games.

· Teams:

ACT Academy of Sport: Rade Kosanovic, Dom Labutte, Phil Yarnold, Luke Morgan, Amied Shadmaan, Stephen Kemp, Matt Jullienne (Rowan Coleman) Adam Williams, (Matt Anstey), Carl Valeri, Daniel Aliffi, Paul Ivanic (Goran Veljanovski). Subs not used: Yosef Zamora, Adrien Labutte.

Queensland Academy of Sport: Todd Boddington, Ryan Smith, Hamish Edwards, Mark Davidson, Shane Barnes, John McKain (John Richter), Adam Webber (Ian Bonato), Russell Miner, Morgan Cawley, Lawrence Drake, Mathew McKay. Sub not used: Wayne Heath

Referee: Aaron Lowther

JOEYS LOSE SECOND GAME IN URUGUAY

tour of South America with a 1-all draw with the Uruguayan Under-17s in Montevideo last Thursday.

The LG Joeys, who are using this tour as preparation for the World Youth Cup to be played in New Zealand next month, went down a goal in the 18th minute, a defensive lapse capitalized on by the Uniqueness

The Australians settled the game down, but were unable to find the target in the first half, Adelaide Force striker LOUIS BRAIN having his shot saved in the 20th minute and heading wide five minutes later.

The second half also saw squandered chances, LUCAS PANTELIS setting up SCOTT McDONALD from a free kick on the edge of the area, to see the shot saved, and DYLAN MACALLISTER hitting the left upright in the 56th minute.

It took until 2 minutes from full time for the LG Joeys to finally put a score on the board, Werder Bremen's JOE DI IORIO volleying in a cross from JADE NORTH in the 88th minute, to level proceedings 1-all.

"I was pleased with the work-rate the boys put in today, but there is a lot of hard work ahead of us yet if we want to be competitive at an international level," said coach LES SCHEINFLUG after the game.

"Our players were too keen to give the ball away, and need to learn to stand their ground, hold the ball up and treasure possession."

In the second game the Australian Under-17 soccer team has suffered a 2-1 loss against the Uruguayan Under-17s in South America, in the build up to next month's World Championship in

Despite solid work in the opening stages of play with good chances to both WAYNE SRHOJ and JADE NORTH, the Australians went down a goal in the 20th minute after a goal-keeping error by JESS VAN STRATTAN.

The LG Joeys rallied with an equaliser just on half-time, LUCAS PANTELIS taking an early free kick from outside of the area, and finding NORTH on the far post, with the headed goal leveling the scores.

The Australians came out fighting in the second half and had Uruguay on the back foot from the start with both PANTELIS and SCOTT MCDONALD going close in the 5 minutes from the resumption.

But the LG Joey's hopes crumbled midway through the second half with both McDONALD and JOE DI IORIO sent off within three minutes of each other, in the 64th and 67th minutes, for on-the-ball incidents.

Playing the final 25 minutes with just nine men, the Australians withheld until a minute from full time, when a deflected shot found its way past VAN STRATTAN for a 2-1 win to the home team.

AUSTRALIAN LINE-UP

Jess Van Strattan (gk); Adrian Madeschi, Mark Byrnes, Aaron Goulding, Jade North, Lucas Pantelis (tain Fyfe 81'), Dylan MacAllister (James Johnson 37'), Wayne Srhoj, Louis Brain, Joshua Kennedy (Scott McDonald 45'), Joe Di Iorlo

Red Cards: Scott McDonald 641; Joe Di Iorio 671

FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER 1999

The LG Joeys' next game is against Uruguayan Club Side NACIONAL on October 20.

NORTHEN DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
A.I.S.	3	3	0	0	18	1	9	17
Parramatta Power	3	3	0	0	13	0	9	13
2.4.8	3	2	1	0	14	3	7	11
Northern Spirit	2	2	0	0	4	2	6	2
Wollongong Wolves	3	2	0	1	3	1	6	2
Northern Spirit Colts	2	1	1	0	4	1	4	3
A.C.T.A.S	3	1	1	1	5	9	4	-4
Sydney Olympic	1	1	0	0	1	0	3	1
N.S.W.I.S.	1	1	0	0	1	0	3	1
Syd Olympic Acad	2	1	0	1	7	9	3	-2
Marconi Stallions	2	2	0	1	2	6	3	-4
Newcastle Breakers	3	0	0	3	0	3	0	-3
Newcastle Colts	3	0	0	3	3	9	0	-6
Wollongong Colts	2	0	0	2	2	8	0	-6
Sydney United Colts	3	0	0	3	3	11	0	-8
Marconi Colts	2	0	0	2	0	8	0	-8
Sydney United	2	0	1	1	0	9	0	-9

A.C.T.A.S.	1	Q.A.S.	1
Vejanovski 81		Cawley 64	
Spirit Colts	4	Breakers Colts	0
Berbis 40,66		Colts	
Vasili 41,			
Perinich 87			
Spirit Youth	1	Breakers Youth	0
Kane 89			
	0	P'matta Power	2
Sydney Utd Colts	Ų	Angelucci Berry	
tati tatabaan	0	N.S.W.I.S 1	
W'gong Wolves	u	Petrovski 85 pen	
			0
A.I.S 9		Sydney Utd	· ·
Last 3, Bryett 18,			
Demourtzidis 21, 4	5, 75,		
Gulesserian 36, G	raham 53,		
Vasilevski 82, Baju	ırın 85		
Olympic Colts	5	Wollongong	1
Sarmonikas 2, Jar	man 13,	Parker 15	
Mengi 23, 31,Las			
Marconi Stallions		Marconi Colts	0
Beauchamp 22,Av			
BYE-Sydney Olyi			

Parramatta Power v (Parramatta Stadium-5:30)	Sydney Olympic Academy
Newcastle Breakersv	Northern Spirit Colts
(Breakers Stadium-5:15pm)	
SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER 1	999
Wollengong Colts v	Sydney Utd Colts
(Brandon Pk no.2 - 4:00pm)	2.0
	Northern Spirit
(Valentine Park - 4:00pm)	
SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 199	9
Sydney United V	Marconi Stallions
(S.U.S.C - 11:30am)	11:30am)
Marconi Colts V	Sydney Olympic Academy
(Marconi Stadium - 4:00pm)	
Breakers Colts v	A.I.S
(Breakers Stadium-4:00pm)	
Sydney Olympic v	Wollangong Wolves
(Belmore Sports Ground-4:0	Opm)



INSIDE JUNIOR SOCCER



NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE



By Chris Dunkerley

ost football fans, including the most ardent, don't take the National Youth League seriously. Even where games are curtain-raisers it is all too easy to grab a pie or beer and chat to mates or that attractive person who takes your eye. Only when the NSL teams take the field do we focus on football. True isn't it?

What a shame though for out there on the park is the future, not only of your beloved team but of Aussie football. This season changes made to the Youth League mean that up to six over-age players can take the park joining the U18s. That means that the Youth league really is more like the Reserve Grade of old and surely deserves a look. Add to that the young talent showing their stuff (as did many of this year's rising stars in last year's competition, eg. Ergic, Zorbas, Faria, Shroj, Dodd, etc). So arrive a few minutes earlier and invest your time before an NSL match, or where games a played elsewhere drop down (for free) to that local park, and enjoy.

Northern Spirit Youth 1
Derryk Kane 92min
Newcastle Breakers Youth 0

On Saturday in a double header derby Northern Spirit's Colts and Youth teams hosted their respective equivalents from the NSL enemy of the night before, Newcastle Breakers, at Christie Park, Marsfield.

The meeting of two of last year's

semi-finalists promised a hard match and referee Sutton had his hands full in what panned out to be a very competitive and physical game, leading to four yellow cards (NS Kathel and Catanzarro; NB -Gazzard and Moore) and a red Simon Catanzarro, And there could have been more! Spirit field-

ed the maximum six overage players while the Breakers fielded five - a factor that probably contributed to the fiery nature of the game.

There was not much between the teams despite Spirit's big guns,

the first half grinding down into a pitched battle in midfield with Breaker's Mansley and Tancheski and Spirit's Catanzarro and Faria well shackled and shots were at a premium.

Joel Grennell shot over the bar at 39 mins without worrying John Perosh, and Antonio Faria hit the side netting just before the half-time whistle. Newcastle's Moore hit over the bar at 72mins off Tancheski, but generally Spirit crept 'just' on top for most of the second half with Glenn Moore (who had been so influential and heavily tackled) fading for the Breakers.

Faria had a few chances that were well saved by Kos. At 87mins Ryan Griffiths knocked an angled shot onto the left post from a swirling Faria cross. In the 92th min a penalty was awarded to Spirit and Moss viciously whacked the spot kick straight at Kos who did well to block it.

Down to 10 men Spirit would have taken the draw but the deciding goal when it came in the 92nd min from young Kane was not a surprise (making it 2 in 2 matches for Kane).

The Breakers should have returned up the M3 knowing they put up a commendable performance and will be very competitive for the rest of the Youth competition.

Unfortunately for Spirit former NSWIS goal ace Simon 'Captain Zorro' Catanzarro's red card in the 84min may prove more damaging than at this level. Senior Spirit identities admitted that Catanzarro may be out of next week's NSL game against Brisbane rather than the Youth League game.

The rules between the two comps have been unclear in the past. This could

be very bad news for Spirit after losing Zane, although Tony Perinich made his comeback in the Colts game.

Best: For Spirit Faria, Miller, Moss. For Breakers: Moore, Kos, Mansley.

Spirit: John Perosh, Elvis Olic, Adam Griffiths, Simon Catanzarro, Phil Moss, and Antonio Faria, Ryan Griffiths, Todd McCrae, Ross Kathel, Simon Miller, Derryck Kane:

Subs: James Monie, Peter Antar, Jason Hamilton, David Brickell, and Adam Israel.

Breakers: Jason Kos, Josh Ferguson, Glenn Moore, Paul Wheeler, Chris Gazzard, James Kemp, Heath Simspon, Joel Grennell, David Ross, Chris Tancheski, Chad Mansley.

Subs: John Bennie, Mitchell Cook, Kurt O'Brien, Adam Skelly, Dayne McBride.

Northern Spirit Colts
Luciano Berbis 40, 66mins,
Nicholas Vassili 44, Tony Perinich 88mins
N'castle Breakers Colts
James Georgeff 65min

With many of the Breakers Colts being in the U16 and U17 age group and their opponents Spirit oozing confidence a one-sided game may have been expected.

But at the 8min it was the Breakers captain Mark Nicholson who went close with a free kick and Peter Gallagher in the 35min sliced his firm shot wide.

Luciano
Berbis opened the scoring, when in the 40th min he steered a shot through the defenders and past the unsighted Raihan Anwar into the right side of the goal. This was followed in the 44th minute by a goal from Nick Vasili.

After the break the Breakers battled to create chances and James Georgeff eventually netted at the 65th minute to give the Newcastle a glimmer of hope but soon after it was snuffed out by Berbis' second in the 66th min.

The imbalance in age and experience eventually told on the Breakers and a 'goal' by Georgeff was disallowed for off-side.

Perinich put it beyond doubt with his 88th min contribution. The young Newcastle Colts, who will surprise a few youth teams, put up a good fight but lost out against a skilled Spirit Colts team that may outplay, if not out muscle, their own Youth team (ie. Rnd 8 on 20th November).

Best: Spririt - Cunico, Jones, Snyder. Breakers - Weiczorek,

Anwar, Gallagher.

Squads:

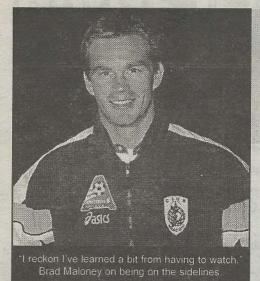
Spirit Colts: Robbie Enes, Michael Cunico, Adam Snyder, Tony Perinich, Chris Sharpe, David Anderson, Cameron Jones, Adam Monteleone, Luciano Berbis, Chris Talevski, and Nick Vasilli;

Subs- Nathan Foti, George McLean, John Majurovski, Matthew Sutton, Murray Nelson.

Breakers Colts: Raihan Anwar, Brad Wieczorek, Lee Davelaar, Brendan Wasik, Chris Fleming, Mark Nicholson, William Pryce, Peter Haynes, James Georgeff, and Peter Gallagher;

Subs - Alex Provost, Tristan Jones, Josh Hannah, Matt Andrews, Ryan Murray.





Continued from page three

"Now that I've been captain for the last couple of years I do try and help the younger players.

"I'm happy to take the time out.

"But I don't think it (example setting) is something you're ever really aware of - I've never really though of it that way."

Maloney reminded me of a time a few years back when his star was still only on the horizon and I prematurely tipped him to win player of the year.

I had always admired his work ethic and his ability to change career gears as he shouldered increasingly more taxing responsibilities.

No more than a good average player at Apia and Newcastle in the early 1990s and a rapid improver at Olympic in 1993/4 and 1994/5, his star really started to shine in a very good Marconi grand final team in 1995/6.

The burden of expectation increased again when he was

named Marconi skipper a couple or years back, yet Maloney again rose to the occa-

Reigning Warren Medalist and the best goalscoring midfelder in the country, he is now on the cusp of taking over the

BRAD MALONEY

Mr Passion continued

mantle of the NSL's best skipper for the new millennium, as the likes of the 90s men such as Trimboli, Alex Tobin and Andrew Marth hit thirty-something.

"Trimmers is a good example because he really does make things look easy," say Maloney.

"I do not believe I have the natural ability of some others, I am not the most elegant of players.

"My style is to work hard, and that's

"I've developed a bit as I get older and I've probably matured as a person and a footballer, but I think it's just fair to say that I just don't want to rest on my laurels - I don't think you ever stop learning about football.

"I always want to play to the best of my abilities.

"As for winning the medal, well it's the ultimate compliment.

"When the players vote you in as player of the year it really is a compliment of the highest order, isn't it?

"A few people actually said that to me that because Frankie got the job I might have a chance. But you wouldn't want to get picked because Frank is a mate or because he was my coach last year.

Brad Malency on Soccoroo selection

"Last year was certainly my best ever, by all means.

"Frankie (coach Farina) gave me the freedom to play my own game but if credits should go to anybody I've got to look at the players around me.

"I've got guys in the team like Mark

Babic, Dominic Longo, Mike Smith and under-rated Chad Gibson, guys who do the hard yards for me every week.

"It's a luxury having such great players around me and having those players around me contributed more than any one person."

Maloney, who trained with Swedish club Malmo during the off-season, says he would only now consider an overseas move, 'under the right cirmunstances'.

The hint of an opportunity with Frank Farina's national team is another story entirely.

"Being realistic, it's unlikely that an overseas club would go out of their way to buy a 27-year-old Aussie midfielder who has spent his entire career in Australia," Maloney, who recently signed a new contract tying him to Marconi until the end of the 2001/2 season, explained.

"But I'd love to get a look-in with the national team.

"A few people actually said that to me that because Frankie got the job I might have a chance.

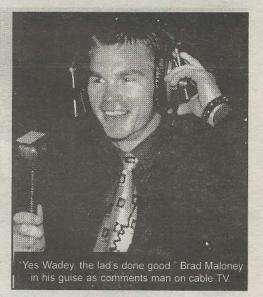
"But you wouldn't want to get picked because Frank is a mate or because he was my coach last year.

"And let's be honest Frank Farina is not going to select a player on that basis either.

"But yeah, I'd love to get the chance."

Just as Maloney craves the chance for another grand final opportunity to atone for just one failed attempt in 1995/6, when Marconi fell in the final hurdle to the back-to-back chasing Melbourne Knights.

He believes this season is the best chance Marconi has had since that grand final disappointment, but the immediate career goal is getting out on the paddock again after missing last year's finals series and the first two rounds of the current season with frustrating problems.



One compelling statistic reveals just how critical the goalscoring prowess of Maloney is to Eddie Krncevic's team.

Over the past two completed seasons Marconi has a 17-3-1 (at 85.7 percent) record in the 21 matches when Maloney has played and scored one goal or more.

In the other 40 games when he has not played or not scored, Marconi's success rate drops off alarmingly to around 45 percent, with a modest team record of 14-8-18.

The torn thigh muscle which kept him from play-off duties appeared healed until almost the eve of round one.

"Basically the thigh and hip area tightened up because of the scar tissues there," said Maloney, who was hoping to be right for last weekend's match up with Carlton.

"It just flared up, and while it wasn't that bad I saw a specialist who said that for the sake of one or two games I might end up missing eight or nine.

"Hopefully once it's over it will be over.

"I've got to say that it is amazing how much you see from the sideline that you don't see when you're on the park.

"I have a great interest in the game and the way my team is playing and I reckon I've learned a bit from having to watch.

"But I can't tell you how much I really wanna play."

West Adelaide goes out in style with Cup win

By Donald Campbell and Margaret Bowden

In a bruising but entertaining game before 2,500 fans at Hindmarsh Stadium, the now defunct West Adelaide State League team came from 1-0 down to defeat Alby Kidd's hot favourite Premier League side Elizabeth City 2-1 in the Federation

Cup Final

An emotional final outpouring of 'Greek' pride filled the stadium after the final whistle with chants of 'Hellas, Hellas' echoing around the ground.

Many would have felt this win was a just dessert after the National Youth League team was banned on the eve of its final earlier in the year.

Elizabeth City took the lead through a superb strike by Danny Reynolds, who latched onto a great cross from the right from ex-Shark Aaron Westerveldt.

Elizabeth City were by far the best side at this stage, with Reynolds and Mark Gillard peppering the West Adelaide goal.

The second half saw five yellow cards, all justified. Elizabeth City's inspira-

tional captain Andy Thomson was first into the book, followed by team-mates Reynolds and Michael Pirone.

West's player coach Airton Andreoli, who was brilliant in the second half, also saw yellow, along with George Tsonis.

This half belonged to West Adelaide, with John Spatharos scoring the goal of the game to level at 1-1. Elizabeth did all in their power to grab a winner, but Reynolds hit the crossbar before West's Harry Skoumbros became the hero of the game, making the most of bad covering by the Elizabeth defence to score the winner late in the half.

RESULTS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER FEDERATION CUP FINAL MATCHES

Under 19 Bailetti Cup Final
Croydon Kings 1 Salisbury Utd 0
Goalscorer: Wieczorek
Best players:
Croydon: Caruso, Pitucci, Bekirovski
Salisbury: Giacomin, Hughes, Groth
Under 23 Federation Cup Final
Cumberland Utd 2 Elizabeth City 0
Goalscorers: Coombes, og
Best Players:
Cumberland: Margaritas, Thwaites,
Bowden

Elizabeth: Rojas, Lampre, Dollery

Sapphires still head table

In Round five of the Ansett Australia Summer Series for Women, ACTAS Canberra Eclipse demolished Victoria Vision 4-2, with goals coming from Dior Foxhill, Tal Karp, Cindy Doyle and Traci Bartlett. The Victorians' scorers were Nichols and Terek.

Northern NSW Pride just got home over QAS Sting, winning two-nil.

Rachel Alley in the 77th minute and an own goal were enough. Alicia Ferguson (pictured) scored for the Queenslanders.



The big clash of the weekend was at the beautiful Hindmarsh Stadium. In the curtain-raiser to the Federation Grand Final the local SASI Pirates drew 0-0 with the league leaders NSW Sapphires.

The result maintains the New South Welshwomen's four point buffer at the top of the league.

There were chances at both ends in a free-flowing first half, SASI's Kristy Moore nearly scored with her one-on-one with the keeper. This was

her first game back from injury.
Superstar Julie Murray hit the bar

after Danielle Clarke was denied by a fine save from Pirate keeper Leanne Trimboll. She again proved her worth in the

second half with a series of saves for the local side.

The Pirates however could have

snatched a dramatic late winner - Jessica Halfpenny ruled offiside although the flag stayed down.

Points ladder: NSW SAPPHIRES 13, SASI Pirates 9, NNSW Pride 8, QAS Sting 5, ACTAS Canberra Eclipse 3, Victoria Vision 2.

TRUE BLUE SUPERIAN



By Aidan Ormond

Passion. It seems to be a bit of theme this week. One man who has enormous passion for his team is John McGauran. Commonly known as 'Trumper' - he is the one with the trumpet - McGauran is fanatical about one side in the NSL. Carlton.

Last weekend this devoted fan of the blue and whites was 1000kms away in Sydney following his side's progress at Marconi. He has also been to New Zealand this season and of course has not missed any of the home games since day one when Carlton played Perth Glory at Optus Oval in 1997.

As he puts it: "I am very passionate about it. It's just this huge adrenalin rush when you see your team play.

"The Grand Final in 1998 was one of the greatest experiences of my life. When Stergiboy (Marcus Stergiopoulos) scored I went absolutely mad - jumping on people, hugging and screaming. They didn't' know who I was but it didn't matter."

However McGauran is one of a small breed of fan in Australia. He actually supports his team through the good times like that Grand Final run - and the struggles. And he puts his money where his mouth is.

"Last year when Carlton got into their losing streak that's when I decided to travel away to games interstate, just to give the guys that extra little bit of support."

He funds his trips away by working in a full-time job and moving back home to cut down on costs.

What makes this level of fanaticism all the more unusual is that he had never seen a live game of soccer before Carlton came along. You see, although he was a mad TV sports fan, he followed Carlton in the AFL. But that all changed in 1997.

"When the news came through officially that Carlton was to have a soccer team in the NSL I said 'bloody hell, beautiful' and jumped on board and started to support them."

He has however clear views on how this third-season club should move forward to capture Melbourne's sporting fans

"It's simple," he said. "They have to change their name. I'd rather see it as Melbourne United or something similar. Look, I would never support a team in sport with the name Essendon. You see?

"A change of name would solve all problems. With the marketing they are doing, and the players and team they have, Carlton could have had 10,000 fans for their first night against Falcons. If I won Tattslotto, I would buy the club and the first thing I would do would be to change its name."

Speaking of their opening night game, the now infamous 'bloody beer garden' (as South coach Ange Postecoglou called it) may have been even more popular had it not been for a virtual gridlock around the Richmond and Jolimont areas of inner-city Melbourne.

Carlton's home ground of Olympic Park is within a kilometre or two of the MCG, the tennis centre and the basketball stadium

"That International Rules game at the MCG was a bloody problem. I know people, such as my brother, who are Carlton soccer fans who went to the game and also it, along with a concert at the tennis centre, made parking an absolute nightmare. I heard some fans of both sporting games actually gave up and went home. It is rare to find three events on the same night. No wonder there was basically no one there for our first game."

Carlton have stated that there will

more parking spots available, but have also said that public transport is probably the best bet (Tram 70 is the one they recommend.)

Going back to his beloved Carlton and McGauran is very impressed with his side circa 99/2000. "We have exciting prospects. At the back we are almost impenetrable, and Slater, who is awesome, together with Marth and Lapsansky form a top midfield.

"Even players like Packer have been a revelation this season. Where did he come from? Upfront however I am less confident, but let's just see."

As for other NSL fans he is, perhaps predictably, less than charitable about the two other Melbourne clubs' fans and their commitment to their teams, but he has nothing but praise for Northern Spirit's 'Bob Standers'.

"Those guys are fantastic. Really top blokes. I saw them at the FIFA all-stars game and they are real fans."

Remember that episode of Ripping Yarns about fanatical fan Gordon Ottershaw, a Yorkshireman who followed his local side Barnstoneworth through defeat after defeat? The Barnstoneworth Chairman called his fanaticism " a form of madness." The retort from the club's potential new owner was: "I like enthusiasm."

Perhaps there is a touch of madness

MY BLUE HEAVEN

the independent voice of the fans of Carlton S.C.

They can take our lives, but they'll never take three points.



Stuart Munro on the My Blue Heaven's Braveheart cover

about supporting your team through thick and thin. Yet there are worse ways of spending your time and the current brouhaha in the NRL about the exclusion of Souths shows that passion for one's side - unlike the business side of sport - is the soul of any code.

And soccer fans, like John McGauran, are the keepers of this most precious of assets. I wish there were more of them in Australia.

PAUL CARTER: available to coach

Paul Carter, who steered St George to a sound second place in last season's first division competition before being replaced a few weeks ago by John Sentas, is looking around for another coaching position, preferably in Super League.

He had done well to take a side which had been relegated from Super League at the end of the 1998 season into a promotion position last season, despite losing almost a full team and he clearly has the credentials to take on a club at that level again.

He recruited well and the players responded, many young ones being unearthed during the campaign.

Carter was player-coach at St George last season, after a distinguished career as a defender with St George, Sydney Olympic, West Adelaide and Marconi as well as much Super League experience with Blacktown City in the past.

He has already spoken to a number of clubs about his coaching options and it will not be long before he finds another good position.

Brisbane Striker Peter Dwyer made his return to the NSL this season, last playing NSL in 1988 for the Brisbane Lions.

Eleven years and 134 days later Dwyer celebrated his return to the NSL with the winning goal against Melbourne Knights in round one.

However, Dwyer's effort is not quite the record longest absence from the NSL. That claim to fame belongs to fellow Scotland-born striker David Mitchell, whose break lasted just 13 days longer.

TOP FIVE NSL ABSENCES

1. DAVID MITCHELL 1985 - for Sydney City 1996/97 - Sydney Olympic

2. PETER DWYER 1988 - Brisbane Lions 1999/00 - Brisbane Strikers 11 years 134 days

3. Lou Hristopoulou 1986 - Adelaide Sharks 1997/98 - Adelaide Sharks 11 years 28 days

4. Jim Patikas 1985 - Sydney United 1995/96 - Sydney United 10 years 142 days

5. CHRIS KALANTZIS
1987 - Sydney Olympic
1997/98 - Sydney Olympic
10 years 80 days

GREG BLAKE



C7 SOCCER COMMENTATOR

Continued from page four



1998/99 1997/98 1996/97 LIVETY CROWD LIVE TV/CROWD LIVE TV/CROWD' FIXTURE Yes/3765 Yes/3933 No/2360 Falcons v Marconi No/3121 Yes/5312 Falcons v S. Melb No/3235 No/3002 No/3324 Carlton v Falcons n/a Yes/4590 Yes/6057 Carlton v Knights n/a No/2091 Yes/3140 Yes/2794 Knights v New Yes/3548 Yes/4502 Yes/4953 Knights v Syd Utd No/4021 Yes/2845 No/3074 Knights v Woll. City Yes/9216 Yes/6826 S.Melb v Olympic No/8896 Yes/8496 Yes/8212 No/9361 S.Melb v Knights /es/6416 S. Melb v Syd Utd Yes/6591

next week

She has a street named after her in Sydney. She captained Australia for four years. She played in every minute of our World Cup campaign. She is an Aussie Soccer legend. She is ANISSA TANN-DARBY and you can read her weekly column exclusive to Inside Soccer as of next week.



VIDUKA LOOKING TO MOVE ON



By John Vrtaric

uring the midweek Worthington Cup a number of Aussies were included in their respective teams. Andrew McDermott was given a full game and Jason Van Blerk came on in the 31st minute in West Bromwich Albion's game against Fullham.

Mark Bosnich made his return to the Manchester United first eleven in a weakened side that went down 3-0 to Aston Villa. Bosnich was judged to have put on a good performance as he kept his young side in the game with some good saves.

Bosnich retained his position for the weekend's 4-1 defeat of Watford. His performance wasn't as convincing on this occasion as some of his renowned foibles came to the fore. A couple of fluffed kicks and some missed crosses wouldn't have restored full confidence to the Aussie 'keeper or his manager, Alex Ferguson.

In other Worthington Cup games Leeds' 1-0 defeat of Blackburn featured two Australians with both Harry Kewell, for Leeds, and John Filan, the Blackburn 'keeper, playing for the full game.

Kewell had a full game, and earned a yellow card, in Leeds' weekend 2-0 win over Sheffield Wednesday and they remain Premier League leaders.

Another two Aussies were part of Middlesbrough's 1-0 Worthington Cup win over Watford. Mark Schwarzer was in goal, as usual, for the 'Boro while Richard Johnson, one of the 'forgotten' Aussies, made his return in the Watford midfield.

Johnson was part of the United versus Watford game on the weekend and capped his return to the Premier League with a goal in the 68th minute.

Schwarzer was again in goal for Middlesbrough's 2-0 win over West Ham on Sunday.

In another Worthington Cup game Jason Kearton was in the Crewe goal in its 3-1 defeat by Premier League team Tottenham.

In the Nationwide Division One Kevin Muscat stayed on the field for the full

90 minutes but Steve Corica was replaced, and earned a yellow card, in the 88th minute in Wolverhampton's 2-0 win over Barnsley.

John Filan was in goal for Blackburn while Frank Talia was on the bench for Swindon and the other Aussie 'keepers, Andy Petterson and Jason Kearton, were both part of their team's first eleven.

Shaun Murphy played a full game for Sheffield United but Mike Panopolous was replaced at the start of the second half for Portsmouth. Jason Van Blerk played a full game for West Brom but both Danny Tiatto and Danny Allsop remained on the bench for Manchester City.

Neither Nick Rizzo nor Craig Foster were part of Crystal Palace's squad for their weekend game.

According to a Sky Sports report Blackburn goalkeeper John Filan insists that Rovers are on the way back to the Premiership, despite a poor start to their First Division campaign.

Speaking after the narrow defeat at Premiership leaders Leeds in the Worthington Cup tie at Elland Road, Filan declared: "The League is a long, long campaign and it is only early on

"We are trying to build something to be strong at the finish and we are on the right track." And Irish international winger Damien Duff believes that the resilient display at Leeds will give the whole side a boost.

"We had a young team out and we played well for 90 minutes," Duff said. "The goal was a bit of a fluke - the wall jumped and he (Mills) put it under, but overall it was a good performance.

"The performance will

give us confidence. We knew we were good enough to do it anyway and we proved it.

"We played well but, unfortunately, we didn't get the result."

In Nationwide Division
Two Tim Cahill scored
another goal, in the 70th
minute, while Andrew
Bernal was part of the
whole game for Reading
but earned a yellow card
for his troubles.

Tynan Scope stayed on the bench for Bristol City in their 0-0 draw in the local derby clash with Bristol Rovers.

In the Scottish Cup played midweek Mark Viduka scored a goal in the 69th minute in Celtic's 4-0 win - Viduka was also in form in a closed-door match against Falkirk which Celtic won by 6-3 with Viduka getting all six.

The V-Bomber carried his form into the weekend as he scored for seven games straight while scoring a hat trick in Celtic's 7-0 win over Aberdeen. Viduka is now the top goalscorer in Scotland with nine goals.

Viduka is still, it seems, not settled in Scotland with his Croatian girlfriend, who does not speak English, not happy having to live in 'dreary Glasgow'.

The current speculation is that he will join either an Italian or Spanish club before Christmas.

Both Tony Vidmar and Craig Moore were part of Rangers' 1-0 win over Dunferline in another Scottish Cup game. Moore played a full game while Vidmar came on at the start of the second half in Rangers' weekend 1-1 draw with Kilmarnock but Stuart Lovell remained on the bench for Hibs.

Raphael Bove's recent move to Scotland saw him make his debut in the Scotlish Cup. Bove was replaced in the 57th minute but was instrumental in his team's goal when he found Nick Dasovic who produced a stunning 30-yard strike which nestled in the corner of the net.

In Germany, David Zdrilic was replaced in the 60th minute in Ulm's 4-1 away loss to Bayer Leverkusen for whom Frank Juric was not part of the squad.

Ned Zelic made a timely return to first team duty as he played a full game in 1860 Munchen's 1-3 away win over Werder Bremen. Paul Agostino did not appear in the Munchen team but scored seven goals for his club in a trial match against an amateur team (final score: 16:0). Coach Lorant said: "Paul scored a number of remarkable goals and played very aggressively. "However he won't be able to gather a spot in the first eleven in the next matches and will have to hope for a ioker role."

Joe Simunic, whilst trying to decide whether he should play for Australia or Croatia, is making steady progress towards Hamburg's first eleven with another subs appearance, albeit in the 90th minute, in a 2-0 win on the weekend.

Munchen are running fifth, while Hamburg are second and Ulm is second last.

In Italy, neither of Empoli's two Aussies, Marco Bresciano nor Vince Grella played last Monday in 2-0 loss to Pistoiese.

Paul Okon stayed on the bench in Fiorentina's 0-2 home loss to Parma on the weekend while Ante Seric played a full game in Verona's 2-0 home win against Peruggia

n Croatia, Ante Milicic came on in the 88th minute, despite scoring two goals in his debut, in Rijeka's 0-0 away draw with Vukovar during the week while Josip Skoko played a full game in Hajduk's 5-0 away win at Hrvatski Dragovoljac.

On the weekend both Skoko and Tony Grdic played full games in Hajduk's 2-2 away draw with Cibalia, while Milic did not play for Rijeka in their 2-0 home win over Zagreb. Hajduk and Rijeka are running second and third, three points and nine points respectively, behind leaders Croatia Zagreb.

In Holland, Zeljko Kalac played a full game in Roda's 2-1 win over Feyenoord, but neither Jason Culina nor Joe Bacak were part of their team's squad on the weekend.

In Greece, Ante Covic played the full game in PAOK's 2-0 home win over Ethnikos on the weekend.

Harry Kewell: The Interview

From net site Football 365

Leeds set their standards last season. How hard is it living up to that billing?

"I think there were a few people who wondered how we would do this season. That's bound to hap-



pen, given the average age of this squad and what we achieved last season. What is encouraging is we've been able to maintain that form so far. I don't think anyone is getting carried away, it's far too early. But it's encouraging."

You're now talked about in the same terms as the likes of Manchester United and Arsenal. Do you genuinely feel you can compete with the top boys?

"You look at United and the success they enjoyed last season and you want some of it. People compare us to them and I'm sure if we enjoyed some of their success it would be something of an achievement. It's flattering to be compared, but we will be judged on our success, not another team's. You're as good as you are. I thought going into this season that it might take a couple more years for this current side to challenge for the title.

I'm not surprised we are doing well, but it's early days. It's maintaining that consistency that counts. It's no good being top of the league in October and being eighth come January. We all realise a tough season lies ahead, but we're just playing and working hard for success."

Any half-decent Leeds side of the past 20 years has had to cope with comparisons with the team of the early 1970s. How does that affect the players?

"Everyone talks about the great Leeds teams of the past but if you try too hard to emulate their success, it can become a problem. We don't feel under any pressure to match them, but obviously we're looking to win things. The great thing about the current side is we appear to have the blend right - the younger players are not afraid to learn from the older and more experienced pros."

David O'Leary is always calling you guys his 'babies'. Does he ever have to smack your bums?

"I've seen him get mad a few times, I've been on the end of it. But he's a very balanced person, he doesn't lose it without a reason. What people don't see is his supportive side, the way he encourages players and the confidence he's instilled in the team."

The expectation levels at the club have obviously risen. Last year the UEFA Cup was a big adventure, but this year you're one of the fancied teams.

"Europe's been good. I think we learned a lot from last season and the experience gained has been vital. It's early days but, if we play as well as we have been, we have a good chance of progressing to the latter stages of the competition. The experience we are gaining is crucial, though. So, the further we progress, the better."

The Leeds fans are well known for being, shall we say, vociferous. Some players have found that hard to cope with. It must be quite tough for such a young side...

"The fans have been exceptional. They are very vocal - quite intimidating for the opposition, I guess. But I suppose it's the same for most of the big clubs. Getting behind your team is vital and, at home, it's like having an extra man in your side."

As the pressures grow on the team as a whole, the demands on individuals become greater, too. How do you feel about being talked about as one of the Premiership's brightest young stars?

"I don't feel under pressure myself. I've always felt that if I'm good enough, I'm good enough. I don't take too much notice of what people say, unless of course it's the manager or people I respect! I've worked hard to get to this point and I'm not about to ease up."

AULD ENEMIES BATTLE FOR EURO 2000

evin Keegan raised his eyes to the heavens when the news was announced - England must overcome Scotland if they are to play in the European Championship finals next summer.

Last week's play-off draw in Aachen, Germany, paired international football's two oldest rivals who now meet over two legs.

Scotland, drawn first, will be at home on 13 November with the return leg at Wembley on 17 November what will be one of the last great Wembley occasions before the stadium is demolished.

It was immediately announced that the Wembley match will be televised live by ITV and Sky.

England coach Keegan was at the eight-nation draw and Scotland and England were the first two nations drawn.

"There will be no better atmosphere in the play-off games," he insisted. "These two matches will be like Cup ties and a great advert for the game. I'm happy that we will play the second game at home in front of our own fans." Capped 63 times, Keegan played against the Scots on four occasions, including the memorable 5-1 win at Wembley in 1975.

The Scots have won only four of the 15 matches between the two sides since then and were beaten 2-0 by Terry Venables"s team in the 1996 European Championships at Wembley.

"The last time we met Scotland was in Euro 96 and the result was the right one for England. However a lot of the personnel have changed since then, players as well as one manager, and it will be a new experience for a lot of people.

"That match was a fantastic advert for



the two nations in the football sense," said Keegan. "We have a lot of respect for the Scots and I think they feel the same about us too."

He added: "Fixtures with Scotland were great to play in. There is a lot of banter and lot of pride in representing your country in such a game.

"I am looking forward to it. I didn't want to draw a side who we had to travel half way around the world to face and then play them again three days later.

"We will still do our homework but obviously we know a lot about Scotland.

"The games will be a great advert for the European Championships.

"I'm particularly pleased we don"t have to travel far. The one thing I didn"t want was a long journey to play opposition we don't know much about.

"But I know nearly as much about the Scots as I do my own players and, of course, Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, will be saying the same thing."

The Republic of Ireland avoided bigguns Denmark and Ukraine but still face a tough two-legged tie against Turkey. Mick McCarthy's side play the first leg at home.

In the other two ties Denmark face Israel and Slovenia meet Ukraine.

The first leg matches will be played on November 13 and 14 with the second leg ties on November 17.

England boss Keegan said immediately after the draw: "It is a good draw for England and a good draw for Scotland. We will have to see how it unfolds.

Sir Alex Ferguson is backing the Braveheart spirit of the Scots to lead them to victory in the European Championship play-off games against England.

The Manchester United manager said competing against the auld enemy was the only inspiration the Scots would need to win the so-called Battle of Britain.

"From a Scotland point of view, playing England is the best draw we could have got, simply because it becomes a battle," he said, speaking in Manchester at the opening of a new Science of Sport museum last week.

"In a battle the best fighters always come out on top and Scotland have always

had the best fighters.

"I think England are obviously the favourites because they are the better team, but Scotland have a great team spirit so without a doubt they are going to be two very hard games."

Ingland will attempt to oust Scotland from the Euro 2000 play-offs, then try to turn the potentially hazardous match into a grand coup for the Football Association's case to host the World Cup in 2006.

The FA is already planning to re-activate the feel-good factor of Euro 96. However, there is still a shudder of apprehension running down the spine of England's World Cup bid chiefs.

Last week fears emerged that ticket sales, with no segregation, will create a potential powderkeg. A phone hotline opening on Monday - will be the only way for England fans to buy tickets for the second leg at Wembley on November 17.

Wembley spokesman Martin Corrie admits it will be virtually impossible to ensure fans phoning for tickets are who they say they are. "We will work as hard as we can to ensure segregation," he said.

"But short of asking people to sing God Save The Queen down the phone there is no way you can be totally sure. It will be a challenge, but we are not anticipating any problems. We are looking forward to welcoming our friends from Scotland."

Although the FA intends to throw all its resources into proving that England could host any game during World Cup 2006 without hooliganism, they will not need reminding of fighting in the centre of London after Paul Gascoigne's strike sealed the Euro 96 showdown.

The stark fact is that an out-break of the hooliganism that has plagued English football for years would sound the death knell of the 2006 bid.

Conflict between the Auld Enemies would precipitate a quick telephone call to Tony Blair, informing the Prime Minister that the £10million invested in the campaign could be written off.

However, that is a dark scenario the FA refuses to countenance. Executive director David Davies said: "This is a wonderful showcase for our football at its best and an



opportunity to remind anyone whose memories of Euro 96 are fading what football in our great stadia can look and sound like.

"I do not think that any other play-off match will attract the same numbers or intensity as the England v Scotland matches."

Davies was supported by David Findlay, the head of the SFA international department, who said: "The behaviour of both sets of fans will no doubt be important and influential to FIFA when it considers the World Cup bid.

"The Tartan Army has a good reputation for responsibility everywhere around the world and I am sure they will be on their best behaviour at Wembley and Hampden."

In the meantime, however, the two countries will be thrown into a ticket frenzy for the titanic encounters at Hampden on Saturday, November 13 and at Wembley the following Wednesday.

FA spokesman Steve Double said: "We look at what happened in Euro 96 and, as a security exercise, it was a big success - everything inside Wembley went according to plan.

"Obviously the demand for tickets will be huge and we will look to get a decent allocation at Hampden for the 25,000 members of the England Members Club.

We want to avoid fans going there without tickets but the nature of the game is that both Hampden and Wembley could be filled several times over.

"No two nations have more experience of holding international matches than England and Scotland. Our expertise is high and we will get good cooperation."

PORTUGAL TO HOST EUROPEAN FINALS

portugal will stage the 2004
European Championship,
UEFA's executive committee
announced last week.

Portugal's bid beat applications from Spain and a joint campaign from Austria and Hungary. The Spanish and the Austrian-Hungarian team both congratulated Portugal although the Spanish bid chief slammed the UEFA decision.

It is the first time that Portugal will stage such a prestigious tournament and now gives the country the chance to modernise its infrastructure.

Portugal's most famous footballer Eusebio, who worked in close liaison with the bid committee and travelled widely as an ambassador for the campaign, was delighted with the news.

Eusebio, top scorer in the 1966 World Cup with nine goals when Portugal finished third in the tournament won by hosts England, said: "Young people in Portugal will have the great privilege of seeing in person the best players in the

"I am a happy man. I am no longer out on the pitch but I still live in the world of football."

The country's president, Jorge Sampaio, said: "It is a big opportunity to reform our sporting structures and create new ones at the service of sport and football in particular. Let's get to work."

But the president of the Royal Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) has slammed UEFA's decision.

RFEF president Angel Villar said: "I congratulate Portugal. Even if I don't want to cause a controversy I think UEFA made the wrong decision. I persist - Spain was the best candidate."

Meanwhile, Austrian Football Federation president Beppo Mauhart blamed their failure on co-bidders Hungary.

Mauhart said that they believed that the joint Austrian-Hungarian bid had weakened their chances.

"Presenting a joint Austrian-Hungarian bid did not go in our favour, because the joint organisation by Belgium and the Netherlands was accepted for Euro 2002 and it was too soon to organise a competition in tandem.

"We were disappointed and surprised by the decision. I think it was a compromise decision," said Mauhart.

He added: "Portugal put forward an excellent bid. We wish them success."

But the Hungarian side also expressed misgivings.

Hungarian Federation boss Imre Ibozoky said: "I am very disappointed. The opening towards the East (of Europe) is put back. As far as we are concerned only a joint bid was possible. We can have another go when Hungary is admitted into the European Union."

Ten stadiums in all will be used by Portugal. Five existing stadiums will be upgraded while five entirely new arenas will be constructed, four of those on existing sites.

The five that just need to be modernised are those of Boavista, Vitoria Guimaraes, Academica Coimbra, Union Leira and most famously Benfica's celebrated Stadium of Light.

However, the home grounds of FC Porto, Sporting Lisbon, Sporting Braga and Beira Mar (in Aveiro) will be be totally rebuilt while an entirely new facility will be constructed at Almancil.

The Portuguese government will contribute a total of 25% of the budget of £206million and will give generous tax

breaks to the Portuguese Football Federation.

Portugal already has a thriving hotel industry and the road network has been improved thanks mainly to big grants from the European Union. Steps are already being taken to modernise the country's rail system.

Before 2004 a high-speed train link will be opened from Lisbon to Porto, which will also serve Coimbra and Alveiro.

UEFA's Swedish president Lennart Johansson announced the decision, saying: "The UEFA executive committee has decided to follow the recommendations of the Competition Organising Committee and designate Portugal."

No details on how votes were cast were immediately available.

The announcement was greeted with jubilation in the Portuguese capital of Lisbon.

Car drivers and cabbies sounded their horns as the news was announced live on the radio while Pizza delivery motorcyclists weaved through the streets flying Portuguese flags from their machines.

S UNITED - SHAKY HOLD ON TOP SPOT

wo goals from Alan Smith ensured Leeds United maintained their position as Premiership leaders with a 2-0 victory over Sheffield Wednesday and equalled the club's all-time record of nine consecutive victories set in 1931.

Smith's brace came in the space of six minutes midway inside the second half and ended a brave challenge from the Owls who remain rooted to the bottom.

Manchester United stay second with an emphatic 4-1 trouncing of Watford at Old Trafford.

Dwight Yorke, Andy Cole (twice) and a penalty from Denis Irwin did the damage, with Richard Johnson getting one back for the Hornets who had Mark Williams sent off two minutes from time for chopping down United substitute Jonathan Greening.

Leicester City took advantage of defeats for Chelsea and Everton to move up to fifth courtesy of a 2-1 home win against Southampton, who have not won away from The Dell since the opening day of the season.

The Foxes' fifth consecutive win in league and cup competition came courtesy of goals from Steve Guppy and Tony Cottee with only a late Marian Pahars goal provided any consolation for the visitors.

Gianluca Vialli had a severe case of the blues at Anfield, seeing Marcel Desailly and Dennis Wise dismissed as Liverpool recorded a much-needed victory to take some of the pressure off Gerard Houllier.

David Thompson scored the only goal of the game after 47 minutes, though Michael Owen missed from the spot when Desailly was shown his second yellow card for bringing down Danny Murphy in the penalty area.

There was little to cheer for the other half of Merseyside however as Arsenal came from behind to dispose of Everton 4-1 at Highbury.

A terrific curling free-kick by John Collins had sent the travelling fans wild with delight, but a rare goal from full-back Lee Dixon pulled the Gunners level shortly before the break.

And a second half brace from Davor Suker - preferred in attack to Kanu - plus a lastminute goal from the Nigerian substitute ensured the Toffeemen would head back north empty-handed.

At the other end of the table, Newcastle United had a nightmare afternoon at Coventry City, seeing defender Warren Barton sent off in a 4-1 reverse at Highfield Road.

The visitors were already one-down thanks to Carlton Palmer's first goal for his new club when Barton received his marching orders after half an hour for violent conduct following an off the ball challenge on Youssef Chippo.

Paul Williams and Robbie Keane compounded the early misery for Bobby Robson's team as the home side raced into a three-goal

advantage to kill the game before half-time.

Didier Domi was on the scoresheet for the Magpies with nine minutes to go, but Mustapha Hadji completed a very satisfactory day for Gordon Strachan in the dying moments.

With basement boys Wednesday losing in West Yorkshire, Newcastle stay second bottom and it was a bad day all round for the strugglers with Bradford City and Derby County also

The Bantams lost 3-2 at Wimbledon, who picked up their first three points since August 10th, while Tottenham Hotspur stay in the chasing pack for a European place with their Chris Armstrong-inspired 1-0 win at Pride Park.

John Salako wrapped up a 2-0 victory for Charlton at Portsmouth as Alan Curbishley's men continue to set the pace at the top of the First Division.

The Addicks were always comfortable and never looked back once John Robinson set them on their way on 43 minutes.

Manchester City blew a golden chance to keep the pressure on the south London side when they could only draw with struggling

Joe Royle's side went ahead with a Kevin Horlock penalty five minutes into the second half but Rovers equalised with a spot-kick of their own, Alan Mahon netting from the spot on 82 minutes to earn his team a point.

Fulham kept their unbeaten run going after a narrow win over struggling Swindon at Craven Cottage. Geoff Horsfield did the damage six minutes from time as Jimmy Quinn's side suffered a late heartbreak.

Birmingham kept ticking over with a 2-0 victory over Crystal Palace at St Andrews.

Darren Purse (10) and Jon McCarthy (48) scored the goals which kept City up with the front-runners in Division One and increased Steve Coppell's woes as Palace slide back towards the basement.

Ipswich continued to slip after they were hammered 4-1 at home by rampant QPR.

Matt Holland got the Suffolk side off to a dream start with his first goal of the season on three minutes but Rangers hit back through Gavin Peacock in the 33rd minute. Stuart Wardley put the Londoners in front on 65 minutes and Rob Steiner scored twice in the last 10 minutes to complete a wonderful afternoon for Gerry Francis' men.

Huddersfield were brought back down to earth after their shock win at Chelsea in the Worthington Cup. They crashed to a 1-0 defeat at improving Bolton after Ricardo Gardner scored the decisive goal on the stroke of half-

Meanwhile shock troops Stockport continued their surprise push for the Premiership by coming from behind to beat Crewe at Edgeley

Park. Neil Sorvel put Alex in front after 16 minutes but Sean Connelly equalised on the stroke of half-time and cut-price striker Laurent d'Jaffo kept County upwardly mobile.

Oakwell, Barnsley's leaky defence let Scott Taylor put Wolves a goal to the good in the first five minutes. Ade Akinbiyi added another as Colin Lee's surprise strugglers at last seem to be shaking off their early season malaise. Craig Hignett hit back with nine minutes to spare but it was too late for Dave Bassett's inconsistent

In other games Blackburn were held at home by Grimsby in a

game of three sendings-off and two penalties. Craig Short and Martin Taylor saw red at Ewood Park, with Richard Smith getting dismissed for Grimsby. Lee Ashcroft got Grimsby's spot-kick before Lee Carsley tied things up on the stroke of half-time.

Sheffield United defeated Nottingham Forest 2-1 thanks to two goals from Martin Smith, West Brom kissed goodbye to their unbeaten run as Walsall's Andy Rammell won his side's third Midlands derby and Norwich won at Port Vale with an 82nd-minute strike from Craig Fleming.

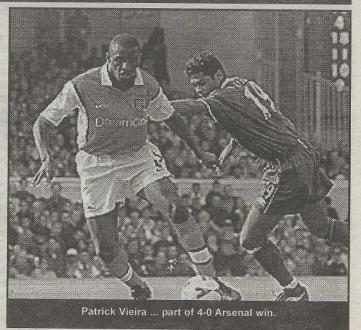
an Richardson sent managerless Notts County top of the Second Division - albeit only until the outcome of Sunday's Bristol derby - with a goal four minutes into the second half to see off Wycombe at Meadow

The Magpies had to come from behind after Sean Devine put Wanderers ahead after 20 minutes but on-loan Nick Fenton levelled the game on the stroke of half-time.

Stoke failed to keep up the pressure on the leading pair when they were held at Bournemouth.

Northern Ireland international Steve Robinson put the Cherries ahead on 24 minutes but the Potters hit back with a goal from youngster Clive Clarke seventeen minutes into the second half.

Bury are not a team renowned for deluging their opponents in goals but poor Blackpool were felled by the Shakers' full might as they crashed 5-0 at Bloomfield Road.



Chris Swailes put Neil Warnock's men a goal to the good at the interval and then the Tangerines were completely swamped after the break. John Hills, Chris Billy, Ian Lawson and Paul Barnes got their names on the scoresheet as Bury confirmed they are genuine promotion contenders this season.

Alan Pardew's reign as Reading's fulltime boss got off to an inauspicious start when his Royals crashed 2-0 at home to big-spending Wigan. Stuart Barlow and Carl Bradshaw scored at the end of each half as the Latics' good form continued.

Burnley, surprisingly defeated by unfancied Scunthorpe last Sunday, forced a draw at improving Millwall. Andy Cooke put the Clarets' noses in front with 12 minutes gone only for Tim Cahill to bring the home side level midway into the second half. Ron Noades' Brentford continued their phenomenal unbeaten run with a 2-0 victory over surprise strugglers Oxford at Griffin Park. Lloyd Owusu and much-fancied defender Darren Powell scored the goals which blew away the sadness of Hermann Hreidarsson's sale to Wimbledon.

Preston are the latest team to find a visit to Glanford Park is the guarantee of a torrid afternoon. Gritty Scunthorpe cancelled out Jonathan Macken's 40th-minute opener with a penalty two minutes after the break from the highly-rated Guy Ipoua.

At Kenilworth Road, Luton continued their push for the play-offs with a 3-1 victory over Peter Taylor's Gillingham. A penalty from Liam George in the 51st minute was quickly augmented by two Stuart Douglas goals in what turned out to be a top day for the Hatters.

Arsenal (1) 4 Everton (1) 1

Arsenal: Seaman, Dixon, Winterburn, Vieira, Keown, Adams, Suker, Bergkamp (Kanu 69), Overmars (Silvinho 65), Parlour (Ljungberg 76), Grimandi.

Subs Not Used: Henry, Lukic. Goals: Dixon 40, Suker 54, 61, Kanu 90, Everton: Gerrard, Ball, Gough, Unsworth (Cleland 79), Collins, Barmby, Campbell Hutchison, Gemmill (Cadamarten 78), Weir,

Subs Not Used: Watson, Johnson, Simonsen. Goals: Collins 16. Att: 38,042

Coventry (3) 4 Newcastle (0) 1

Coventry: Hedman, Edworthy (Froggatt 72), Shaw, Williams, Hall, Telfer, Palmer, McAllister (Roussel 85), Chippo, Keane, Hadji. Subs Not Used: Nuzzo, Strachan, Eustace. Booked: Chippo, Palmer, Edworthy. Goals: Palmer 13, Williams 21, Keane 39,

Hadji 90. Newcastle: Given, Barton, Domi, Dabizas, Hughes, Solano, Dyer, Speed, Lee, Shearer, Gallacher.

Subs Not Used: Harper Maric, Glass, McClen, Pistone.

Sent Off; Barton (29). Booked: Solano, Dabizas Goals: Domi 81. Att: 23,031

Derby (0) 0 Tottenham (1) 1 Derby: Hoult, Laursen, Schnoor, Delap, Borbokis (Sturridge 82), Eranio, Johnson Morris (Murray 82), Dorigo, Beck, Burton (Balano 73).

Subs Not Used: Knight, Prior. Booked: Delap, Murray, Eranio. Tottenham: Walker, Carr, Perry, Campbell, Taricco, Leonhardsen, Nielsen (Vega 77), King, Ginola (Sherwood 89), Armstrong (Piercy 77), Iversen Subs Not Used: Baardsen, Edinburgh. Booked: Taricco, Carr. Goals: Armstrong 37.

Leeds (0) 2 Sheff Wed (0) 0 Leeds: Martyn, Mills, Woodgate, Radebe, Kelly, Bowyer, Batty, McPhail, Kewell, Smith, Bridges (Huckerby 62).

Subs Not Used: Haaland, Hopkin, Bakke, Robinson.

Booked: Bridges, Kewell. Goals: Smith 72, 78.

Att: 29,815

Sheff Wed: Smicek, Atherton, Walker, Thome, Hinchcliffe, Alexandersson, Sonner, Jonk, Rudi, Booth, De Bilde.

Subs Not Used: Sibon, Cresswell, Nolan, Briscoe, Pressman. Booked: Atherton, Rudi, Sonner.

Att: 39.437 Leicester (2) 2 Southampton (0) 1 Leicester: Flowers, Sinclair, Taggart (Gilchrist 77), Elliott, Impey, Savage (Zagorakis 89), Izzet, Lennon, Guppy,Cottee (Marshall 86),

Subs Not Used: Arphexad, Oakes Booked: Savage, Heskey Goals: Guppy 8, Cottee 39.

Southampton: Jones, Dodd, Lundekvam, Richards, Benali (Boa Morte 88), Ripley (Le Tissier 46), Soltvedt, Hughes (Davies 67),

Marsden, Kachloul, Pahars. Subs Not Used: Moss, Colleter Sent Off: Davies (76) Booked: Lundekvarn, Kachloul Goals: Pahars 84. Att: 19,556 Liverpool (0) 1 Chelsea (0) 0 Liverpool: Friedel, Henchoz, Song, Hyypia,

Staunton, Carragher, Smicer, Redknapp Murphy (Heggem 80), Thompson, Owen (Meijer

Subs Not Used: Matteo, Camara, Nielsen. Booked: Staunton, Redknapp, Murphy, Thompson.

Goals: Thompson 47, Chelsea: De Goey, Petrescu (Lambourde 74), Babayaro, Leboeuf (Le Saux 64), Desailly, Deschamps, Poyet, Wise, Ferrer, Sutton, Zola

Subs Not Used: Morris, Cudicini. Sent Off: Desailly (73), Wise (88). Booked: Desailly, Sutton, Leboeuf, Lambourde. Att: 44.826

Man Utd (3) 4 Watford (0) 1 Man Utd: Bosnich, Irwin, Stam (Keane 64), Silvestre, Neville, Beckham, Butt, Scholes, Giggs (Greening 71), Cole (Solskjaer 67),

Yorke. Subs Not Used: Van Der Gouw, Wallwork Booked: Neville

Goals: Yorke 39, Cole 42, Irwin 44 pen, Cole Watford: Chamberlain, Gibbs, Page, Palmer

(Smith 83), Robinson, Kennedy, Hyde (Wright 46). Johnson, Williams, Ngonge (Miller 61),

Subs Not Used: Day, Easton. Sent Off: Williams (88). Booked: Page, Kennedy, Miller, Robinson. Goals: Johnson 68. Att: 55,188

Wimbledon (2) 3 Bradford (1) 2

Wimbledon: Sullivan, Cunningham, Blackwell (Roberts 80), Thatcher (Kimble 66), Cort, Earle, Hartson, Euell, Gayle (Leaburn 87), Andersen, Hreidarsson. Subs Not Used: Heald, Badir. Goals: Hartson 22, 36, Cort 75. Bradford: Walsh, McCall, Wetherall, Blake, Mills, O'Brien, Windass, Sharpe (Saunders 59), Halle, Jacobs, Redfeam. Subs Not Used: Myers, What Dreyer.

Goals: Mills 45, Windass 90 Att: 10,029 Middlesbrough(0) 2 West Ham(0) 0

Middlesbrough: Schwarzer, Fleming, Vickers, Pallister, Cooper, O'Neill, Ince, Juninho, Ziege, Ricard (Armstrong 59), Deane. Subs Not Used: Beresford, Campbell, Summerbell, Gavin. Goals: Deane 51, Armstrong 88. West Ham: Hislop, Sinclair, Ferdinand, Stimac, Ruddock, Keller (Cole 74), Lampard, Lomas, Moncur (Forrest 27), Wanchope, Di Canio. Subs Not Used: Potts, Carrick, Margas. Sent Off: Hislop (26).

Booked: Di Canio, Ruddock. Att: 31,862.

OUKA STARS IN CELTIC 7-0 RON



Celtic closed the gap on Glasgow rivals Rangers at the top of the Scottish Premier League with a resounding 7-0 victory over luckless Aberdeen.

Henrik Larsson and Mark Viduka led the way with hat-tricks after Eyal Berkovic opened the scoring as the Bhoys went to within four points of the leaders.

After only one point during a miserable first quarter of the Scottish Premier League season, Aberdeen faced what became an impossible task against their in-form opponents.

Berkovic began the scoring after 16 minutes with the home side the dominant force from the outset and Larsson added two more before the break, the second a stunning volley, to virtually settle the contest.

The Swede completed his hat-trick after 73 minutes, by which time Viduka had grabbed two, and Viduka rounded off the scoring himself with two minutes remaining.

The Gers looked to have secured all three points up until midway through the second half at Kilmarnock after Giovanni van Bronckhorst put

But Michael Jeffrey ended the Gers' proud record of eight successive league wins and salvaged a point at Rugby Park.

The Liverpcol-born former Fortuna Sittard and Newcastle striker struck in the 73rd minute to stun Dick Advocaat's side

A cross from sub Christophe Cocard was flicked on by Ally Mitchell and Jeffrey steered the ball beyond keeper Stefan Klos.

Rangers were stung and roared back, but could not find the net again despite Michael Mols and Rod Wallace having good chances within a minute of each other.

Elsewhere, Hearts were held 1-1 at home to St Johnstone for whom Nathan Lowndes cancelled out Gary McSwegan's dazzling first-half opener with a wonderful left-footed effort of his

And Fir Park witnessed a 2-2 draw between Motherwell and Hibernian.

Hibs took the lead after nine minutes after a soft penalty award when Shaun Teale nudged Kenny Miller off the ball and Russell Latapy sent Andy Goram the wrong way.

Lee McCulloch brought Motherwell back into the contest with an equaliser in the 32nd minute with a right-foot shot from the edge of the

Mixu Paatelainen made no mistake after 57 minutes when he fired Hibs into the lead after a Kenny Miller cross was touched on Grant Brebner but Steve McMillan ensured honours were even 10 minutes later.

In the Dundee derby, United cruised to a 2-0 victory at Dens Park.

Billy Dodds pounced after just 13 minutes to leave Dundee struggling for the rest of the

With the Tangerines dominant, it was no surprise when Steve Thompson added a second after 51 minutes after a good pass from Dodds.

Celtic (3) 7 Aberdeen (0) 0 Celtic: Gould, Riseth, Stubbs, Tebily, McNamara, Burley (Mjaliby 62), Berkovic (Blinker 32), Moravcik, Lambert, Larsson (Burchill 78), Viduka, Subs Not Used: Kharine, Petrov. Goals: Berkovic 16, Larsson 40, 43, Viduka 61, 64, Larsson 73, Viduka 88.

Aberdeen: Preece, Perry, Anderson, Solberg, Dow, Young, Buchan, Mayer, Gillies (Bett 66), Jess (McAllister 52) Winters (Hamilton 69). Subs Not Used: Leighton, Lilley.

Booked: Young. Att: 60.033

Ref: Stuart Dougal (Scotland). Hearts (1) 1 St Johnstone (0) 1 Hearts: Rousset, Pressley, Naysmith, James, Ritchie, Cameron, Jackson, Flogel, Severin, McSwegan (Juanjo 65), Wales

(Fulton 80). Subs Not Used: McKenzie, Locke, Murray. Booked: James.

Goals: McSwegan 7. St Johnstone: Main, McQuillan, Griffin, McCluskey, McAnespie, Dasovic, Kane (O'Neil 74), Bollan, O'Halloran, O'Boyle (Thomas 78), Lowndes (Simao 85). Subs Not Used: Ferguson, McBride. Booked: Kane, Dasovic, McQuillan,

Lowndes. Goals: Lowndes 57. Att: 12,872

Ref. Alan Freeland (Scotland). Kilmarnock (0) 1 Rangers (1) 1 Kilmamock Watt, MacPhereon, Lauchlan, Dindeleux, Baker, Mitchell, Holt, Durrant, Reilly (Cocart 55), McCoist (Jeffrey 44),

Subs Not Used: Stewart, Hessey, Davidson. Booked: Durrant. Goals: Jeffrey 73. Rangers: Klos, Porrini (Johansson 82),

Moore, Amoruso, Numan (Vidmar 46), Ferguson, Kanchelskis (McCann 33), Van Bronckhorst, Albertz, Mols, Wallace. Subs Not Used: Brown, Nicholson. Booked: Van Bronckhorst Goals: VaSn Bronckhorst 25. Att: 15,795 Ref: Kenny Clark (Scotland). Motherwell (1) 2 Hibernian (1) 2 Motherwell: Goram, Doesburg, Teale, Thomas, Nevin (Nicholas 84), Brannan, Valakari, Townsley (Twaddle 57), McMillan,

Spencer, McCulloch (Goodman 54).

Subs Not Used: Woods, Craigen. Booked: Brannan. Goals: McCulloch 32, McMillan 67. Hibernian: Gottskalksson, Jack, Dennis, Dempsie, Smith, Brebner, Latapy (Lehmann 84), Sauzee, McGinlay, Paatelainen, Miller

(Hartley 77). Subs Not Used: Colgan, Collins, Lovell. Booked: Paatelainen Goals: Latapy 9 pen, Paatelainen 57.

Att: 7.559 Ref. Eric Martindale (Scotland). Dundee 9 Dundee Utd 2 Dundee: Douglas, Maddison (Robertson 79), Tweed, Boyack, Rae, Annand (Matute 59), Grady (Coyne 79), Falconer, McSkimming, Sharp, Wilkle. Subs Not Used: Langfield, Slater.

Booked: Rae. Dundee Utd: Combe, Pascual, Hannah, De Vos Easton, McCulloch, Dodds, Telesnikov, Thompson, Partridge, Davidson (Skoldmark

Subs Not Used: Maipas, Ferraz, Gallacher, Venetis. Booked: Easton. Goals: Dodds 13, Thompson 51.

Att: 9,484.

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

D W D I E A Pte GD

	P	W	D	L	-	A	PIS (טכ
Leeds	11	8	1	2	21	12	25	9
Man Utd	11	7	3	1	27	16	24	11
Arsenal	11	7	1	3	17	10	22	7
Sunderland	10	6	2	2	18	8	20	10
Leicester	-11	6	2	3	19	14	20	5
Chelsea	9	6	1	2	15	4	19	11
Everton	11	5	2	4	17	14	17	3
Tottenham	10	5	2	3	17	14	17	3
Aston Villa	10	5	2	3	11	9	17	2
West Ham	9	5	1	3	11	8	16	3
Middlesbrough	11	5	0	6	13	15	15	-2
Liverpool	10	4	2	4	11	10	14	1
Coventry	11	3	3	5	16	15	12	1
Southampton	10	3	2	5	17	21	11	-4
Wimbledon	11	2	5	4	17	25	11	-8
Watford	11	3	0	8	7	15	9	-8
Derby	11	2	3	6	10	19	9	-9
Bradford	10	2	2	6	6	16	8	-10
Newcastle	11	2	1	8	21	27	7	-6
Sheff Wed	11	1	1	9	8	27	4	-19
Official viola								

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

	Р	W	D	L	F	A	Pts (GD
Charlton	9	7	1	1	18	7	22	11
Fulham	10	6	4	0	14	5	22	9
Birmingham	12	6	3	3	21	13	21	8
Man City	11	6	2	3	15	7	20	8
Stockport	11	6	2	3	14	14	20	0
Ipswich	10	5	2	3	21	14	17	7
Huddersfield	11	5	2	4	21	15	17	6
Barnsley	11	5	1	5	24	23	16	1
Bolton	11	4	3	4	16	13	15	3
QPR	10	4	3	3	15	12	15	3
Grimsby	11	4	3	4	11	14	15	-3
Wolverhampton	11	3	5	3	10	12	14	-2
Sheff Utd	11	4	2	5	16	21	14	-5
Blackburn	10	3	4	3	13	10	13	3
Nottm Forest	11	3	4	4	16	14	13	2
West Brom	10	2	7	1	10	9	13	1
Norwich	11	3	3	5	10	13	12	-3
Crystal Palace	11	3	3	5	16	20	12	-4
Portsmouth	10	3	3	4	11	18	12	-7

Walsall	12	3	3	6	10	18	12	-8
Port Vale	12	3	2	7	14	18	11	-4
Crewe	10	3	2	5	12	18	11	-6
Tranmere	12	2	3	7	11	20	9	-9
Swindon	12	2	3	7	8	19	9	-11
ENC	GLISH	DI	VI	SIC)N'	TW	O	

	P	W	D	L	F	AI	Pts (GD
Bristol Rovers	12	7	3	2	16	9	24	7
Notts County	-11	7	2	2	20	11	23	9
Wigan	10	6	4	0	20	8	22	12
Stoke	12	6	3	3	19	13	21	6
Brentford	10	5	5	0	18	9	20	9
Burnley	12	5	5	2	14	9	20	5
Luton	12	6	2	4	18	14	20	4
Preston	12	5	5	2	15	14	20	1
Bury	12	5	4	3	23	16	19	7
Wycombe	12	5	4	3	17	14	19	3
Bournemouth	11	5	3	3	16	12	18	4
Gillingham	12	4	4	4	19	17	16	2
Wrexham	12	4	3	5	16	21	15	-5
Millwall	10	3	5	2	13	13	14	-0
Bristol City	11	3	4	4	13	13	13	0
Cardiff	12	2	6	4	14	17	12	-3
Scunthorpe	12	3	3	6	9	16	12	-7
Oxford Utd	12	3	2	7	13	18	11	-5
Chesterfield	11	2	4	5	9	11	10	-2
Cambridge Utd	12		4	6	20	23	10	-3
Oldham	11	2	2	7		15		-5
Reading	11	2	2			24		-9
Blackpool	12		4			25		-14
Colchester	10	2	1	7	10	26	7	-16

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
Barnet	12	8	3	1	20	11	27	9
Peterborough	12	7	2	3	16	12	23	4
Halifax	12	7	1	4	17	11	22	6
Rochdale	12	6	3	3	11	4	21	7
Exeter	12	6	3	3	17	12	21	5
Darlington	12	6	3	3	12	8	21	4
Rotherham	12	6	2	4	20	10	20	10
Southend	12	6	2	4	18	16	20	2
Torquay	12	6	2	4	15	13	20	2

Northampton	12	6	1	5	11	9	19	2
Brighton	12	5	3	4	20	12	18	8
Lincoln City	12	5	3	4	14	14	18	0
Hartlepool	12	5	1	6	17	13	16	4
Swansea	11	5	1	5	10	9	16	1
Plymouth	12	4	4	4	17	17	16	0
Macclesfield	12	4	2	6	15	18	14	-3
York	12	3	4	5	11	17	13	-6
Carlisle	12	3	4	5	13	20	13	-7
Mansfield	12	3	3	6	13	17	12	-4
Hull	12	3	3	6	9	14	12	-5
Cheltenham	11	4	0	7	6	11	12	-5
Shrewsbury	12	3	3	6	11	20	12	-9
Leyton Orient	12	2	2	8	12	23	8	-11
Chester	12	1	3	8	12	26	6	-14

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
Rangers	9	8	1	0	25	7	25	18
Celtic	8	7	0	1	25	3	21	22
Dundee Utd	9	5	2	2	14	12	17	2
Hearts	8	4	2	2	15	11	14	-
St Johnstone	9	3	3	3	12	14	12	-2
Dundee	10	. 3	0	7	14	19	9	-5
Kilmarnock	9	2	2	5	7	9	8	-2
Hibernian	10	1	5	4	13	20	8	-7
Motherwell	7	1	4	2	9	13	7	-4
Aberdeen	9	0	1	8	3	29	1	-26

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
St Mirren	10	6	3	1	27	14	21	13
Dunfermline	10	5	5	0	19	9	20	10
Livingston	10	5	4	1	19	10	19	9
Raith	10	4	3	3	19	18	15	1
Falkirk	10	4	2	4	15	17	14	-2
Ayr	10	4	1	5	14	16	13	-2
Greenock Morton		3	3	4	15	16	12	-1
Airdrie	10	2	4	4	8	17	10	-9
Inverness CT	10	2	3	5	11	17	9	-6
Clydebank	10	0	2	8	8	21	2	-13

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE - ROUND 4

PARRAMATTA POWER V CANBERRA COSMOS

1	Andrew Crews
2	David Barrett
3	Michael Santalab
4	Steve Eagleton
5	Richard Plesa
6	Joe Vrkic
7	Jacob Burns
8	- Walter Ardone
9	Mile Sterjovski
10	Joel Griffiths
11	Steve Berry
12	Stephen Laybutt
13	Milan Blagojevic
14	John Angelucci
15	Danny Townsend
16	
17	Danny Kukucka
18	Lachlan Campbell
19	Matt Thompson

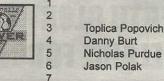
Barney Smith

Ahmid Elrich

John Gibson

Peter Bennett

Mike Gibson



11

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16 17

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20 21 22

25

26

29



Daniel Watkins
Alex Castro
Michael Musitano
David Arranz
Harry James
Glen Kolpak
Ilija Prenzoski
Nikola Mrdja
Geoff Howarth
Grant Barlow
Scott Conlon
Elliot Zwangobani
Ivo De Jesus

Gabriel Gonzalez

Angelo Konstantinou

Carlton

1	Dean Anastasiadis
2	Dave McPherson
3	Craig Deans
4	Simon Colosimo
5	Sean Douglas
6	Andrew Marth
7	Struart Slater
8	Mark Atkinson
9	Alex Moriera
10	Lubo Lapsansky
11	Archie Thompson
12	Mike Conroy
13	Steve Martin
14	John Markovski
15	Con Anthopoulos
16	David Terminello
17	Joe Tricarico
18	David Della Rocca
19	Serdar Pir
20	Adrian Cagalj
21	Andrew Packer
22	Angelo Motsiopoulos
23	Colin Azzopardi
24	Joshua Kennedy

Venue:

Head to Head:

Last Week:





ven		
Hea		
Las		

20

22

28

30

Parramatta Stadium - Friday 22 October, 7.30PM Played 0 Power wins: 0 Cosmos wins: 0 Draws 0 Power 2-1 away loss to Adelaide Force Cosmos 0-1 home loss to Brisbane Strikers

BRISBANE STRIKERS V NORTHERN SPIRIT

1	Clint Bolton
2	Glenn Gwynne
3	Shane Stefanutto
4	Andrew Davidson
5	Matthew Belli
6	Brad Ditton
7	
8	David Pilic
9	Paul Foster
10	Wayne Srhoj
11	Greg Di Losa
12	
13	Stuart McClaren
14	Jade North
15	Leo Langone

Chay Hews

Jeromy Harris

Nick Meredith

Wade Baldwin

Daniel Duke







John Crawley Ray Younis Mark Racker Velimir Kupresak Eddie Bosnar Vince Savocca Mirko Jurilj Nahuel Arrarte Mario Jermen Ante Moric Tom Pondeljak 12 Tom Maric 13 Matthew Zec 14 Kain Rastall 15 Aytec Genc 16 Joe Moric 17 Nick Bosevski Steve Bozinovski 18 Greg Saric 19 20 Steve Tolios Ante Deak

Venue:

Head to Head:

Last Week



Olympic Park - Friday 22 October, 7.30PM

Carlton 0-4 away win over Marconi

Knights 0-3 home loss to Glory

Played 4 Carlton wins: 2 Knights wins: 1 Draws 1

Chad Gibson Mark Babic Dominic Longo Pan-Keum Kim Christian Care Darren McDonald Zeliko Babic **Brad Maloney** 10 Mike Smith 12 13 Danny Invincible Buddy Farah 14 15 Pierluigi di Gia 16 17 Francis Awaritefe 18 Harry Karl Brendan Ranaud 19 20 David Aceski 21 Paolo Marchesini 22 Kris Trajanovski Vlado Zoric

Venue: Head to Head: Last Week:

16

17

18

19

20

Suncorp Metway Stadium - Saturday 23 October, 7.30PM Played 2 Strikers wins: 1 Spirit wins: 1 Draws 0 Strikers 0-1 away win over Cosmos

Spirit 0-2 home loss to Breakers

LIVE TELECAST ON OPTUS C7 CHANNEL 12 7:30 PM SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER, 1999

1	Milan Udvaracz
2	Steve losifidis
3	Fausto de Amicis
4	Nick Orlic
5	Con Blatsis
6	David Clarkson
7	Steve Panopoulos
8	Vaughan Coveny
9	Paul Trimboli
10	Michael Curcija
11	John Anastasiadis
12	Richie Alagich
13	Adrian Cuzzupe
14	Anthony Magnacca
15	Goran Lozanovski
16	George Goutzoulis
17	Jim Tsekinis
18	Robert Liparoti
19	Tasos Psonis
20	Chris Jones
21	
22	Mustafa Mustafa



15 16

17

Jonathon Buhugiar

Juan Nilo Will Hastie

Michael Katz







Matthew Horsley

Anthony Surjan

Paul Reid



MARCON

Venue: Head to Head:

Last Week:

Bob Jane Stadium - Sunday 24 October, 6.00PM Played 17 Souths wins: 12 Falcons wins: 5 Draws 0 Souths 1-0 away loss tp Kingz Falcons 1-1 home draw with Sydney United

David Cervinksi

8	Marcus Phillips
9	Pablo Cardozo
10	Brett Emerton
11	Chris Kalantzis
12	
13	
14	Gabriel Mendez
15	Lindsay Wilson
16	Adrian Cervinski
17	Paul Kohler
18	John Kyriazopoulos
19	Nick Carle
20	George Bouhoutsos
21	Lee Miot
22	Pete Zorbas

9	Sasho Dimoski
10	
11	Scott Chipperfie
12	Neil Harlock
13	Noel Spencer
14	Saso Petrovski
15	David Huxley
16	Peter Lahamas
17	Esala Masi
18	Chad Bishop
19	Paul Dimech
20	Daniel Berltrame
21	Christian Zelvis

Venue: Head to Head: Last Week:

Belmore Oval - Sunday 24 October, 6.30PM Played 38 Olympic wins: 0 Wollongong wins: 0 Draws 9 Olympic 0-4 away win over Wollongong Wollongong 0-4 home loss to Olympic

LIVE TELECAST FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER 7.30 PM OPTUS C7 CHANNEL 12

FOOTBALL KINGZ





Bob Catlin Shane Pryce

Andrew Roberts

Adam Sanderson

Todd McManus

Chris Tancheski

John Buonavoglia

Robert Angievski

Brad Wieczorek

Joshua Ferguson

Andrew Harper (above)

Vasko Trpcevski

Paul Wheeler

Chad Mansley

Bradley Swancott

Peter Juchniewicz

Glenn Sprod

Travis Dodd

Mark Wilson

Luke Tomich

Greg Owens

10

12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20





1	Michael Utting
2	Che Bunce
2	Riki Van Steeden
4	Fabio Macolino
5	Jonathon Perry
3	Marcus Stergiopoulos
7	Wynton Rufer
3 +	Chris Jackson
9	Fred de Jong
10	Dino Mennillo
11	Robbie Middleby
12	Harry Ngata
13	Levent Osman
14	Batrum Suri

Maciel Edmilson Stuart Riddle David Moya Aaron Silva

Ivan Vicelich



Vonue:	Brea Friday
Head-to-Head:	
Breakers wins:	
Kingz wins:	
Draws:	

16 17 18

rs Stadium October 7.30pm **Breakers: 2-0 away win at Spirit** Kingz: 1-0 home win over South Melbourne

REPLAYED SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 7.30 PM OPTUS C7 CHANNEL 12

ADELAIDE FORCE





Danny Milosevic Robert Trajkovski	
Jamie Harnwell	GL ☆ RY
Vinko Buljubasic	

Gareth Naven

Alistair Edwards

Kasey Wehrman

Bobby Despotovski

Scott Miller

10

12

13

14

18

19

(above)

Troy Halpin

Peter Bulian

Jamos Afkos

Edgar Junior

Con Boutsianis

Hamilton Thorp

John Carbone

Tony Franken

Vas Kalogeracos

Dion Valle

15 18 19 20

12

13

14

Ivan Zelic Milan Ivanovic Alex Tobin Carlo Talladira Damian Mori Carl Veart Nick Sabljak Aurelio Vidmar Igor Rodgriues Nathan Day John Fusco Michael Cartwright Louis Brain

Angelo Costanzo

Dong Ki Kim

Venue:	Perth Oval
	Sunday 24 October 3.00pm
Head to Head:	Played eight
Glory wins:	four
Force wins:	two
Draws	two

Glory: 0-3 away win against Knights Force: 2-1 home win against Power

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